

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

L'affaire Greenpeace
Full story behind the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior National opening Tom Stoppard looks forward to directing at the National Show business

A summer country show in the Valleys
Track stars David Miller reflects on the Zurich athletics Grand Prix

Portfolio
£4,000 to be won

There was no winner in yesterday's Portfolio competition in *The Times*. Today's prize is therefore increased to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 14. How to play, Information Service, back page.

Slaney sets record for mile

Mary Slaney set a world record for the women's mile when she clocked 4 min 16.71 sec at a meeting in Zurich. In the men's mile Said Aouita, of Morocco, failed by only 0.61 of a second to beat Steve Cram's recently set world record.

Union turmoil

An internal crisis threatens the Society of Civil and Public Servants over efforts to appoint a Communist Party member as its deputy general secretary.

Coke secret

A US judge told Coca Cola to reveal its 99-year-old recipe but the company vowed not to divulge the secret.

Pearl lower

Pearl Assurance, whose first-half profits slumped by 50 per cent, plans to sell Monarch Insurance, the loss-making US subsidiary.

Sikh's killer

The moderate Sikh leader, Sant Harmandir Longowal, was killed by a man posing as his bodyguard, the Press Trust of India said.

Slim Roley

Mr Roley McIntyre was named Slimmer of the Year after losing more than 27 stone to 13 stone 7 pounds.

Trap at the top

Are too many people trapped at the top of the payment scales? General Appointments looks at future employment policies.

Jail threat

Three men face possible imprisonment after being found guilty in London of organizing gaming by operating the "three card trick" near Harrods.

Laker clears way for BA sell-off with \$8m deal

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

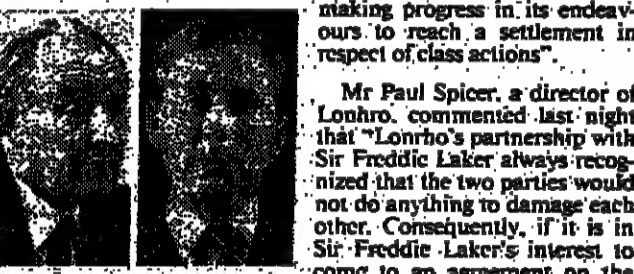
Sir Freddie Laker yesterday decided at the last minute to accept an \$8m offer from British Airways to buy out his 12.5 per cent stake in the airline.

Sir Freddie has accepted the \$8 million offer in July in exchange for a promise by him not to sue over the alleged conspiracy by the airlines and others to put him out of business or stop him starting up again.

A statement issued by British Airways at 6pm yesterday said that he had accepted the offer by the deadline of midnight on Tuesday, only hours after he was challenging the main settlement with the Laker Airways liquidator in the Jersey courts and had won a delay in order to present his case.

The statement made it clear that the settlement goes further than expected by including Laker's international trading group, which had threatened to start a \$327 million suit against British Airways, nine other airlines and McDonnell Douglas, the American aircraft manufacturer.

It said: "An agreement has been reached with Sir Freddie Laker by which he and Laker plc have released any claims



Sir Freddie Laker and Mr. Colin Marshall.

Thousands flee as Beirut war rages

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Thousands of panic-stricken Muslim families fled Beirut for the comparative safety of southern Lebanon yesterday as the civil war in the city - ignited by four car bombs and well over 200 civilian deaths - threatened to degenerate into a full-scale battle for territory between Christian and Muslim militias.

Christian units of the Lebanese Army were last night preparing to withstand an offensive by Druze forces in the hills above the city which could take them down the mountains towards President Gemayel's palace at Baabda.

All day, thousands of mortar rounds, artillery shells and rockets fell across the Lebanese capital, killing 37 people and wounding almost 200.

At dusk, Christian gunmen in east Beirut opened fire on the international airport, where Middle East Airlines were desperately trying to maintain a service amid the chaos and anarchy of the city - and immediately hit an MEA Boeing 707 as it stood empty.

Botha talks divide church

Johannesburg - A serious rift is developing in the hierarchy of the Anglican Church in South Africa over the meeting on Monday between President Botha and a delegation of church leaders led by Archbishop Philip Russell of Cape Town (Ray Kennedy writes).

Bishop Desmond Tutu refused to join the delegation after Mr Botha declined to meet him personally and indicated that the bishop was welcome as a member of Archbishop Russell's party.

The system is called a "towed array sonar" which is regarded as the greatest advance in the detection of submarines since the Second World War. At present that type of sonar is used by only the most advanced of the world's navies, such as the United States, Russia and Britain.

Home News 2-4
Overseas 4-6
Sports 12-16
Arts 13
Books 9
Business 14-18
Classics 2
Court 12
Crosswords 8, 22
Diary 10
Exam results 12
Science 12
Sport 19-21
TV & Radio 27
Theatre, etc. 27
Weather 28
Wills 12

Rail jobs warning on eve of vote

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

British Rail last night sent a personal eve-of-ballot letter to each of its 11,000 guards guaranteeing their future employment under driver-only operation, the issue at the heart of the rapidly widening rail dispute.

The letters, which also carried the warning that the guards' jobs would be threatened by industrial action, were sent after a warning by Sir Robert Reid, chairman of British Rail, that he would shut the rail network down if necessary rather than face the crippling of services because of spreading action by the guards' union, the National Union of Railwaymen.

British Rail's moves came as Mr Jimmy Knapp, the union's general secretary, briefed Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, on the latest developments. If requested by the rail union Mr Willis is expected to inform officially all unions of the dispute after the results of tomorrow's ballot are announced on Tuesday.

Mr Knapp said after a meeting with Mr Willis that he believed there was a "fund of goodwill" for his members in the dispute.

Mr Knapp said that South Wales miners had told his union that they would not cross picket lines and discussions between the National Union of Mineworkers and the rail union over possible further support, including a refusal to co-operate with road movements of coal normally handled by rail, are expected to take place within the next 24 hours.

Mr Bert Lyons, general secretary of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association, whose white-collar members could also face lay offs if British rail went ahead with its threat to suspend the guaranteed working week agreement in the industry, said there could be a long "war of attrition" in the industry.

Mr Ray Backton, general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, distanced himself from remarks made by Mr John Walker, the union's general secretary in Scotland, who suggested that the one-way operation of trains in the Strathclyde region could form a blueprint for the rest of the country. Mr Backton insisted that Aslef and the NUR, as well as the Federation of Rail Unions were acting in unison.

Rail dispute, page 2
Leading article, page 11

Welsh valleys worst affected

British Rail regional offices reported this situation last night: Southern and London Midland: normal services; Eastern: No service on King's Cross suburban line to Welwyn Garden City and Hertford; about 100 trains cancelled; Ten per cent cancellations on the outer suburban King's Cross service to Cambridgeshire, fewer than 10 trains affected; Western: "virtually no trains" on the Cardiff Valleys commuter lines, about 150 trains cancelled; two InterCity cancellations out of 50; Scottish: most Glasgow commuter lines shut down, with 100 trains cancelled as services on the Cathcart Circle or to Neilston, Newton, Barrhead and East Kilbride, no local services to Kilmarnoch.

Lord Matthews, Fleet's chairman, said: "I question now whether there is any point in having a special commission dealing with newspapers. The philosophy of the Government is small is beautiful, and you

Epidemic threat to children

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A million children could be at risk from a new whooping cough epidemic which is expected to strike Britain later this year, the Department of Health and Social Security said last night.

Mr John Patten, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health, said: "Previous epidemics of whooping cough occurred in 1977-79 and in 1981-83. In view of this four-yearly cycle, another whooping cough epidemic is expected to start towards the end of this year."

The Government is launching a £500,000 publicity campaign to boost the numbers of children being immunised. By the end of 1984 only 65 per cent of children born in 1982 had been immunised, and it is estimated that about one million children under the age of six are unprotected.

The 1977 epidemic struck about 100,000 children, and there were 25 deaths in England and Wales. A 1981 outbreak affected 66,000 children and there were 14 deaths.

Mr Patten said the new publicity campaign, to be launched in the autumn, would "provide important information on contra-indications and explain the risks associated



A casually-dressed Princess of Wales leaves St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, yesterday after visiting her sister, Lady Jane Fellowes, who gave birth to a second daughter. (Photograph: The London Standard).

United bid for Fleet given go-ahead

By William Kay, City Editor

The Government yesterday gave permission for United Newspapers, publisher of *Exchange & Mart*, the *Yorkshire Post* and *Punch*, to make a takeover bid for Fleet Holdings, which owns the Express group of newspapers and has a 31 per cent stake in TV-am.

It is the largest newspaper merger to be approved by the Government. In February, United amassed a 20 per cent holding in Fleet, and on March 25 it asked the Department of Trade and Industry for "consent in principle" to make an offer for Fleet.

This request automatically triggered an investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which concluded that the takeover "may be expected not to operate against the public interest".

Lord Matthews, Fleet's chairman, said: "I question now whether there is any point in having a special commission dealing with newspapers. The philosophy of the Government is small is beautiful, and you

can go on and build and empire. But they are not practising what they preach."

United company said it was "pleased to note" Mr Fletcher's announcement, but added: "In considering the terms on which to proceed with an offer for Fleet, the board of United will be influenced by, amongst other things, the substantial fall of £13.6 million in the value of Fleet's shareholding in Reuters 'B' shares since March 25, 1985."

This was seen in the City as an early shot in the takeover battle which is predicted to break out when Mr David Stevens, chairman of United, returns from the United States at the weekend. Fleet retorted that it was worth far more than the current stock market value of its shares. Mr Ian Irvine, Fleet's managing director, said: "From what we know at the moment all the indications are that they [United] won't be able to afford us."

Lord Matthews, Fleet's chairman, said: "I question now whether there is any point in having a special commission dealing with newspapers. The philosophy of the Government is small is beautiful, and you

not to compromise the security among the Royal Navy's most highly-classified pieces of equipment. A towed array sonar consists of a number of highly-sensitive hydrophones which can detect the sound of vessels at considerable distances. The hydrophones are contained in a tube which, in the case of the Plessey system, is 82 metres long.

Mr Giles Harvey, director of marketing for Plessey-Marine, said that up to now towed array sonars had been bulky, high-performance systems out of the range of smaller navies. Plessey Marine and a sister company, Ameco Hydrospace, had combined to engineer a new product of more universal application, taking into account the cost, weight and size constraints of other navies.

US claims KGB uses chemical to track envoys

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The United States yesterday accused the Soviet Union of secretly using potentially cancer-causing chemicals to track the movements and activities of American diplomats in Moscow.

The State Department demanded an immediate halt to the practice. It said it had protested to the Russians "in the strongest terms". It said there was no evidence yet that anyone had suffered ill effects, from exposure to these tracking agents, but American embassy families were yesterday briefed on what is known of the health implications.

The sensational accusation said the US had recently discovered that the Soviet authorities had been using these chemicals "for a number of years". It said other embassies as well as unofficial Americans in Moscow, such as journalists and businessmen, may also have been targeted and are being informed.

The most extensively used of the tracking agents, NPPD (nitro phenyl pentadecan), has been found through biological screening tests to be a mutagen which could cause cancer in human beings. Extensive tests by the National Institutes of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency will be carried out to discover the extent of diplomats' exposure to NPPD and other compounds, and the long-term threat to their health. A special team of investigators will be sent to the Moscow embassy.

The statement said the "indirectly" to embassy personnel. US officials privately suggested the compounds were sprayed on door-knobs and the steering wheels of cars, leaving deposits on the diplomats' hands and clothes. Minute amounts could be transferred to anyone the Americans came into contact with, making it easier for the KGB to keep track of any Russians the diplomats met.

The timing of the embarrassing accusation is sure to enrage the Russians and augurs ill for the atmosphere for the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in November. Senior administration officials said they had known about the general use of tracking chemicals since the 1970s, but their use then was sporadic and the US believed the KGB had stopped in 1982.

The American embassy was the target of microwave signals for a number of years in the 1970s, and the US frequently protested to Moscow, most recently in 1983 when the practice stopped.

British consultations: The Foreign Office said last night that it was not aware of similar tracing agents being used on British diplomats or businessmen in the Soviet Union (Our Diplomat Correspondent writes).

But a spokesman said Britain was consulting the Americans on the matter and would conduct its own inquiry.

Third spy alert as Bonn web unravels

By Our Foreign Staff

Intelligence authorities in Bonn believe an important ring in West Germany has begun to unravel after the reported disappearance of a third suspected agent, this time a man said to have worked in a top-secret atomic bunker.

Security sources said that the man, named only as "Lorenz B", a messenger at an army administrative centre in Bonn, was a friend of Frau Ursula Richter, one of two missing secretaries also suspected of spying.

Frau Richter, aged 52, is suspected of running a spy ring in Bonn which may also have included the missing Frau Sonja Lüneberg, aged 60, chief secretary to the Economics Minister, Herr Martin Bangemann, for 12 years. Both women are thought to have fled to East Berlin.

Lorenz B, aged 53, failed to report to work a few days ago. The company which previously employed him said he was involved in the 1960s in the installation of air-conditioning equipment in the top-secret government bunker near Bonn.

Investigators apparently have new evidence that Frau Lüneberg was a spy. Reports said that East German State Security telephone numbers were found in her flat.

The Federal Prosecutor's Office is certain that Frau Richter was infiltrated into Bonn from Canada with the identity of another in the 1960s. Frau Lüneberg is also believed to have lived in Bonn under an alias for 20 years.

Intelligence officials say they expect more disappearances in the next few weeks.

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Union to face TUC over cash for ballots

By Our Labour Editor

Leaders of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers have been summoned to Blackpool next Thursday to present their case to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress after being formally charged over their acceptance of government money for postal ballots.

To general council yesterday accepted, with only four votes against, a recommendation of its "inner cabinet" that AUEW may have been acting in a way "detrimental to the interests of the trade union movement" as well as being "contrary to the declared policy of Congress."

The decision to take the disciplinary process under the TUC's rule 13 stage further still leaves open the question of whether the issue can be resolved before the Congress which begins on September 2.

In spirit of the imposing show of near-unanimity in pressing the charges against Britain's second biggest union yesterday, there were continuing signs of reluctance among some senior TUC leaders to take the conflict to the point of expulsion if a formula could be found to avoid it.

One possible constitutional loophole emerging last night was the question of how much power the TUC's rule 13 gives to the general council to suspend or expel a union.

The disciplinary action against the AUEW arises from its decision to take £1.2 million of government funds earlier this year before the Government's deadline for retrospective applications for cash under the Employment Act, 1980.

But rule 13 says that if, after considering the views of the offending union, the general council decides that it has been acting against union interests, or TUC policy - the stage that could be reached next Thursday - then the general council shall direct the union "to discontinue such activities forthwith and undertake not to engage therein in the future". Only then does the rule provide that "should the organization disobey such a direction" the general council has the power to suspend the union.

One interpretation of that rule could be that if the AUEW agreed not to make further applications - at least until any change of Congress policy - it might be difficult for the general council to suspend simply for the fact accepted of the union's having received £1.2 million in the past.

AUEW leaders, however, repeated yesterday that they would not accept the alternative proposal being promoted by the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union that the union should bank the £1.2 million in a "mutually acceptable" fund.

IRA admit builder's murder in Dublin

From Our Belfast Correspondent

The Provisional IRA yesterday claimed responsibility for the murder of Mr Seamus McEvoy, a builder who had been supplying materials to the security forces and police in Northern Ireland.

Mr McEvoy, from Coalisland, Co Tyrone, the father of six children, was found shot in the back and chest in his Dublin burglow less than a week after the IRA had issued a "final warning" to builders who dealt with the Royal Ulster Constabulary or the British Army.

Mr Evoy, aged 46, who also had a castle home in 300 acres near Coalisland, was a director of the building firm which supplied portable cabins to the Northern Ireland Prison Service and the RUC.

In the "War News" section of *Republican News*, published last Thursday, the IRA issued a "final warning" to builders of

"armed action" against anyone involved in building or refurbishing work for the RUC or Army.

It said IRA intelligence personnel had compiled dossiers on all those involved in the work.

The IRA statement said: "We are of the opinion that the contractors involved are assisting the British in reinforcing the illegal and immoral presence."

"They are building fortresses and interrogation centres which are being used to oppress our people and subject them to continuing undemocratic rule."

The IRA said some businessmen had offered it up to £100,000 for non-aggression pacts, which they had rejected.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy chairman of the Social and Democratic Labour Party, described the killing as "utterly reprehensible".

Art teacher wins £9,300

Ruth Cousins, an artist who has exhibited at the Royal Academy, was awarded £9,300 compensation yesterday for unfair dismissal from her position as arts teacher at a girls' private boarding school.

Mrs Cousins, aged 55, of Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent, was dismissed from St Stephens college, Broadstairs, at the end of the 1984 Christmas term. Her dismissal followed allegations by Mr Barbara Seymour the head, that the art room was always untidy and that Mrs Cousins had failed to display pupils' work around the school.

Mr David Stevens, who faces a bitter shares battle

Whitehall union faces crisis over top post for Communist

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

A key Whitehall trade union is facing an internal crisis over efforts to secure the appointment as deputy general secretary of a Communist Party member who, the Government has made clear, would be barred from sensitive departments such as the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence.

Mr Mike Perkins, president of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, and a leading candidate for the deputy's job in the union, would if elected, be the first party member to take a top-level civil service trade union job since the Radcliffe Inquiry recommended a bar on Communist civil servants 20 years ago.

Since the inquiry, whose findings were extended to cover Civil Service trade union officials, an unwritten convention between the unions and successive governments has precluded any attempt to challenge the bar by promoting a Communist Party member to the top tier of union office.

Leaders of the union, whose executive is deeply divided over Mr Perkins' candidacy, are understood to have been given a clear but authoritative warning from Treasury and Cabinet Office sources, that the 20-year-old ban would apply to Mr

Perkins and that he might be declared *persona non grata* in Whitehall if elected.

Apex are currently blocking moves to advertise the job externally, an essential prerequisite of Mr Perkins being appointed.

The issue has been complicated by the fact that the staff at the society, who are members of the Association of Professional Executive Clerical and Computer Staffs, are opposed to Mr Perkins' candidacy on the unrelated grounds that as a lay member of the CPS he is not a member of the staff, from whose ranks the deputy general secretaries have normally been drawn.

The issue came to a head after the dominant Broad Left coalition split down the middle between Mr Perkins and Mr Eddie Reilly, a senior member of the staff. The executive subsequently voted to advertise the post. Other internal aspirants for the post are understood to include Ms Judy McKnight and Mr Alan Shute, both senior national officers of the union.

Mr Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the society confirmed yesterday that there was a dispute with Apex over plans to advertise the deputy general secretary's job

Telegraph journalists in technology deal

By Colin Hughes

Journalists at the *Daily Telegraph* yesterday decided in a close vote to accept a deal which clears the way for the management to go ahead with new printing technology.

The National Union of Journalists (office branch) voted by a ratio of five to four to accept an offer of £1,000 now, and another £750 on salary from March 31 next in return for agreeing to smooth the way for transition to photocomposition from hot metal printing.

The management has also guaranteed that the journalists will receive a minimum 5 per cent pay rise, in addition to the £750, both next year and the year after. About forty journalists who were being paid less than £16,000 a year have received merit raises to bring them up to an immediate minimum of £16,000.

The deal was accepted reluctantly by many. Members of the National Graphical Association are reported to have received pay-off

offers in the tens of thousands for the paper's planned move from Fleet Street to a new plant in the London Docklands.

The journalists' union is seeking an urgent meeting with the NGA, because the journalists claim the printers have broken a "trust" over new technology deals.

The NGA is discussing with management at the Birmingham Post and Mail an agreement to transfer 21 of their members, who work as compositors in the print room, on to the journalists' sub-editing desk. The move would be part of a deal to introduce direct-input technology, which eliminates the compositors' job.

The Birmingham battle is the latest in a growing chain of disputes between the two unions about job demarcation, in which journalists have accused the printers' union of trying to poach jobs and union members, and weaken the NUJ's position on the editorial floor.

Timex and Sinclair keep link

By Bill Johnstone

Timex, one of the main suppliers to the ailing home computer company, Sinclair Research, and one of its creditors, denied yesterday that it has stopped making flat screen televisions - microvision - for the computer group.

Responding to a report in Wednesday's *Times*, Timex issued the following statement: "Timex is continuing production of televisions. Timex along with the other creditors are working with the board of Sinclair Research over the next few days with a view to reaching an agreement covering future trading. Future production of microvision is included in this review. We understand that further production of televisions is required to meet the Dixon order."

Dixons has signed an agreement with Sinclair Research to supply £10 million of computers and televisions. The order includes about 30,000 flat screen televisions.

Sinclair Research which owes Timex about £3 million, confirmed that the company had been paying cash for the televisions for several months.

A joint statement from Sinclair Research and Timex said: "Timex continues to manufacture pocket televisions for Sinclair at a rate which is planned to meet current demand, including the recent substantial order for Dixons. The terms of payment between Sinclair and Timex have remained completely unchanged for several months."

Lord Matthews and Mr Maxwell are emphatically self-made men, Mr Stevens was born the year after his father had designed the world's first wearable electronic hearing aid and made the family fortune.

That was in 1935, and it enabled David Stevens to go to Stowe, the public school, and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he read economics. After a year with Elliott Automation, the electronics company, he went into the City, where he spent his career until he became chairman of United five years ago. Even now, he is more at home talking share

prices in the City than discussing type faces in United's office between Fleet Street and the Thames.

Mr Stevens has specialized in running investment trusts. When he first went on the board of United in 1974, it was just another City directorship. The funds he managed has 10 per cent of the newspaper group's shares, and he became a director to protect the investment.

At that time United was a provincial newspaper group which owned a few magazines, notably *Punch*. The year Mr Stevens arrived turned out to be

Safety sentinel whose job is on the line

By Rupert Morris



Mr Henry Bowler, railway guard: "What happens in an emergency?" (Photograph: Graeme Cookson)

Henry Bowler, a railway guard, was on at twenty minutes to five this morning at Blatchley Station, Bedfordshire. His duties provide 30 minutes before his first train journey, with eight empty coaches to Milton Keynes.

On arrival at Euston, he may wait 10 to 20 minutes before his next journey. Occasionally, more likely later in the day, when fewer trains are running, he may wait longer, perhaps an hour. In an average working shift of between seven and nine hours, he will complete four journeys. There are no regular meal breaks, and most guards eat their sandwiches in the cab.

A guard's basic wage is £29.25. Those willing to work overtime, on rest days and on Sundays can earn twice that.

Yesterday afternoon, as Mr Bowler, who proudly wears a 35-year service badge on his cap, took his last journey home to Blatchley, it was evident that in his phlegmatic way, he enjoyed his job.

Nothing much happened. A passenger checked that the train stopped at Hemel Hempstead; the train left on time. Mr Bowler noted it in his log, and turned to the latest issue of the union newspaper.

"See that," he said, pointing to statistics showing an increasing number of accidents on freight trains - another area where British Rail management wants to introduce driver-only trains.

"The job is a lot easier now than it was when I started on steam trains," he said, "but you've still got to have a guard on a freight train."

"It doesn't affect me because I'll soon be able to take the redundancy money, but it does annoy me when they start sacking guards and then advertising their jobs."

Henry Bowler and many other guards will tell you that it is not a question of how much work a guard does on a given shift rather it is a question of what happens in an emergency.

Scots deal 'blueprint for peace'

By Ronald Faux

A Scottish rail union leader yesterday put forward the agreement between Strathclyde and British Rail over services in the region as a blueprint for national rail peace.

Mr John Walker, Scottish Secretary of Aslef, said the agreement more than met his union's demands. The job protection provided within Strathclyde, he said, was a first-class blueprint for the rest of Britain, with protection for both railway workers and passengers comparable with standards in the rest of Europe.

Until the present dispute broke out in Glasgow, the plan, due to be completed by 1983, was ahead of schedule. It involved one-man operations on the Gourock to Glasgow service, and broader duties for guards elsewhere on the region's suburban network.

Strathclyde contains half the Scottish population and is one of the largest regions in Britain. The services cost Strathclyde ratepayers £28 million a year, but this subsidy is to be reduced to £18 million by 1988. With new work practices and investment by British Rail in the network, it is expected that the system will earn enough revenue to keep all the services open.

One of the main recommendations was to make guards responsible for ticket collection and checking. British Rail estimates that inadequate "revenue protection" is costing it millions of pounds a year on Strathclyde services.

Deadlock on one-man trains

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A war of attrition on the railways in the autumn or a complete closure of the rail network within a few weeks are the bleak prospects facing the travelling public as the dispute over driver-only trains gathers momentum.

The tactics of both the National Union of Railwaysmen and the board of British Rail were drawn up several months ago. In expectation of the dispute, which had been long predicted.

The union, which represents British Rail's 11,000 guards, changed its policy at its annual conference in June to enable it to carry out a ballot under the terms of last year's Trade Union Act. However British Rail has been intent on keeping pressure on the union, apparently in the hope of provoking outbreaks of industrial action over which the union would have little control, but for which it could ultimately be held responsible before the court.

The NUR executive, which politically is finely balanced, but has a long-standing reputation for industrial militancy, decided to follow the advice of Mr Jimmy Knapp, the union's general secretary, and conduct a "slow, calm and cool" campaign leading to industrial action against the introduction of driver-only operations (DOO).

The ballot of the guards will be held tomorrow. With the result being known next Tuesday, the scene is set for the most damaging confrontation on the railways since 1982, when the dispute with the train drivers' union Aslef over the issue of flexible rostering cost the board £170 million.

The NUR is certain to call for fresh negotiations with the board if, as union officials expect, they receive a big "yes" vote in tomorrow's ballot. But last night the indications were that the management would continue its hardline strategy and refuse to hold new talks.

Sir Robert Reid, chairman of British Rail has already said that to hold yet more negotiations with the NUR would be a waste of time and would also encourage the union to stone-wall on the removal of guards from some freight and passenger trains.

British Rail does refuse union overtures for new talks, then the NUR leadership could be expected to start the campaign of "guerilla" industrial action which it has planned and which will almost certainly include lightning regional walkouts as well as a ban by guards on overtime and rest-day working. Such action, British Rail managers believe, would have an immediate impact on rail services and push the

network into a state of "disarray". There were strong indications last night that in such circumstances British Rail would prefer to see the closure of the network, with the consequent saving on wages of all 147,000 staff, than a struggle to maintain a service which would deteriorate rapidly as the guards' action started to bite.

That strategy would have an added benefit from British Rail's management's point of view, in that it would probably require government approval. That, in turn, would show clearly that the management's line on driver-only trains was being underwritten by the Government, making it far more difficult for the union to win the dispute.

A decision to close the network would almost certainly invite legal action by other railway staff not involved in the dispute. The NUR believes that the board may not shut down the network because in addition to possible legal difficulties, the Government could face a backlash from the public which the union believes supports the retention of guards on trains.

Mr Gert Lyons, leader of the railway white collar staff union, said yesterday that the guards' dispute would eventually have to be settled through negotiation.

There does exist scope for a way out of the dispute if both British Rail and the NUR are looking for one. That escape route lies in agreeing on the number of guards who will be kept on trains on the Bedford-St Pancras commuter service.

Leading article, page 11

Sir Robert Reid, BR chairman

Students fight benefits cut

By a Staff Reporter

Oxford University undergraduates are to appeal against more than £28 a week for 52 weeks of the year, enough to disqualify them from supplementary benefit.

Covenants are an increasingly common and popular way for parents to pay towards grant because it can save them £100 to £200 a year in tax. The Oxford DHSS ruling, however, would mean many students losing out heavily.

The DHSS said yesterday that the decision was a unilateral ruling by the Oxford branch. "It has now been brought to the attention of Mr Alan Parsons, the chief adjudicating officer, who is considering the matter. There is no question at this stage of the

ruling being applied elsewhere in the country."

Mr Matthew Taylor, president of the Oxford University Students' Union, said yesterday that they knew at least 63 students had decided to appeal against the refusal of benefit.

The problem is that, although the DHSS will tell us how many appeals have been lodged, they won't tell us who they are.

The union is being advised by the independent Barton Information Centre in Oxford. "They tell us that the chances of a successful appeal by unrepresented students are minimal, but that, if we can track down those who have been refused, we might be able to challenge the DHSS effectively."

Before that can happen, Mr Stevens faces the hurdle of winning Fleet Holdings in the teeth of already embittered opposition from Lord Mat-

the peak before a long decline set in.

When he finally took over as chairman on the death of Lord Barnetson, it was because his impeccable financial credentials would reassure United's institutional shareholders. But there was little time to be lost. "If we didn't do something quickly we were going to be in trouble", Mr Stevens recalled earlier this year. His answer was to embark on a dramatic expansion programme.

Now the group takes in books, magazines, satellite communications, newagents' shops and freeshops.

Chess tourney conquest by boy of 17

By Raymond Keene

Stuart Conquest, aged 17, from Hastings, the former World Cadet Champion, won first prize and became an International Master in the National Chess Championships Chess Challenge which finished Tuesday night at Lewisham Chess Club.

Leading scores in the tournament were Conquest 7 out of 9 games; International Master Darryl Johansen, Australia 6½; International Master Ravi Kumar, India and John Hawkesworth, Oxford 5½.

Yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, the Lloyd's Bank Masters' tournament started, it will run for nine days with 160 competitors from all over the world.

It is a particularly strong event this year and the battle at the top will be between three leading British Grandmasters, John Nunn, Murray Chandler and Jonathan Mestel, and three Soviet representatives, Alexander Beliavsky, Gennady Kuzmin and Maia Chiburdanidze, the women's world champion.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia 50c; Belgium 40c; Canada 40c; Denmark 40c; France 40c; Germany 40c; Greece 40c; Hong Kong 40c; India 40c; Italy 40c; Japan 40c; Korea 40c; Malaysia 40c; Mexico 40c; New Zealand 40c; Norway 40c; Pakistan 40c; Portugal 40c; Singapore 40c; South Africa 40c; Sweden 40c; Switzerland 40c; Taiwan 40c; Thailand 40c; USA 40c; Yugoslavia 40c.

Colonel is recalled after drink accusation

Lieutenant-Colonel R. I. S. Purbrick, who allegedly led his regiment into action across asparagus fields and faces a drink accusation was relieved of his command yesterday. He has the right of appeal.

The colonel, aged 41, has been summoned back to Britain from West Germany and will fly back to his regiment's base at Bovington, Dorset, next week.

He faces a desk job instead of leading the 17th Lancers Regiment, whose motto is Death or Glory.

He is to go before an internal disciplinary inquiry after claims that he drank on board a "dry" RAF flight and led his Chieftain tanks across the asparagus fields during an exercise near Soltau.

Colonel Purbrick has been replaced as regiment commander by Lieutenant-Colonel William Hurrell.

Atlantic dinghy sailor sighted

Enda O'Coinneen, an Irish journalist and author, ended four years of his safety yesterday when he was sighted 46 miles west of Milford Haven near the end of his quest to become the first to cross the Atlantic in an inflatable rubber dinghy.

Mr O'Coinneen, who left Newfoundland on July 25 on the 2,200-mile journey carrying navigational equipment and a short-wave radio, had not been heard from since July 30.

Bail for man jailed by police

A man jailed by police on Tuesday for failing to notify a probation officer of a change of address eight years ago was freed on bail yesterday by a High Court judge in London.

Mr Justice Tudor Price also gave William Stirling, aged 31, leave to have his case reviewed by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court.

Trapped cavers escape floods

Six potholers escaped yesterday after being trapped underground for 24 hours in caves in the Brecon Beacons.

The five men and one woman, members of the Carina Caving Club in Birmingham, were cut off by rising water in the Ager-Ali-Wedd caverns near Llangatlog. They spent the night on a ledge but then were able to make their way to the surface.

Security guard shot dead

Mr Sidney Dundon, aged 57, a guard with Security Express was shot dead yesterday as he delivered money to a bank in west London.

The gunman, who escaped with about £16,500, opened fire with a shotgun as Mr Dundon entered the National Westminster bank in The Vale, Acton.

Dunlop jobs go

Almost a third of the 382 workers at Dunlop's industrial hose factory at Cramlington, Northumberland, are to lose their jobs, and changes in the industrial hose division's sales and distribution network will lead to a further 26 redundancies in Glasgow and the Midlands.

Children hurt

Forty schoolchildren from all over Yorkshire were taken to Scarborough District Hospital and two kept there after their four minibuses were involved in a multiple accident at Saxton near-by yesterday. One boy was seriously hurt and the rest suffered more minor injuries or shock. Twenty more youngsters were unhurt.

Tax man jailed

James Berry, aged 36, a tax inspector of Forest Glade, Newport, was jailed for six weeks yesterday by Newport magistrates for trying to defraud the Inland Revenue of £900 by making false claims for tax repayments.

Tablets death

Richard Gray, aged three, of Seagrove Street, Glasgow, died yesterday after swallowing 25 medical tablets which he thought were sweets. His brother James, aged six, was last night still in hospital after taking only one of the pills.

Fall survivor

Valerie Gallimore, aged 21, was admitted to hospital with multiple injuries after surviving a 100ft fall from a seventh floor flat at the Lund Point tower block, Carpenters Road, Stratford, east London.

Record catch

The Icelandic trawler, Gudbjorg, set a UK record at Grimsby yesterday when her catch of 35,620 stones of cod sold for £186,228.

Crash kills three

Three window cleaners were killed yesterday when their car crashed head-on with an articulated lorry at Thame, Oxfordshire.

Three-card tricksters face prison after test-case convictions

A team of street gamblers were in custody last night after a magistrate warned them that three-card tricksters could no longer expect to get away with a fine.

The three men face up to two years in prison and an unlimited fine after being convicted of "organizing gaming" in a test case using Section 2 of the Gaming Act 1968.

Street gamblers are usually charged with "taking part in gaming" under Section 5 of the Act, which carries a maximum fine of £1,000.

The test case was brought by police who are particularly concerned about the number of tourists being cheated in London, especially outside Harrods store in Knightsbridge.

The three men were convicted last month and appeared at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court for sentence yesterday, but the magistrate, Mr James Jobling sent them in custody for sentence at Southwark Crown Court.

"I have the strong feeling that you regard fines as overheads of this nasty business."

He continued: "It is deliberate theft. One hears terrible stories of people losing all their savings. It is quite clear to me

that in your case fines have no deterrent effect whatsoever. The time has come when you and those like you must learn that the law has teeth, and sometimes those teeth must bite."

Ronald Tubey, aged 30, of Heathway, Dagenham, Essex; Alfred Webb, aged 61, of Abersham Road, Hackney, east London; and John Wilson, aged 29, of Keeling House, Temple Street, Bethnal Green, east London, had admitted gaming near Harrods in Brompton Road, on May 28.

They had denied, but were found guilty of the more serious "organization" charge. All had numerous convictions for gaming, but their lawyers told the court that the tougher police action had forced them to give it up.

For Wilson, who was arrested after acting as the "card shuffler" using an upturned crate, Mr Jobling said: "He has got himself a job at long last, and it may be that the shock of being charged under this particular section, and the fear of imprisonment, has broken the pattern of his way of life."

Webb, who acted as a "winning punter", during the

game, encouraging genuine "mugs" to lay bets, has now retired, Mr Turner said. He asked the court to defer sentence for six months to see if the gamblers kept off the streets.

The Gaming Board, which had taken keen interest in the case, sent an inspector to the court as a spectator.

After the hearing, the Metropolitan Police solicitor, Mr Stuart Frost, who first advised police on use of the tougher law, was delighted by the outcome. "I would hope that gamblers will take note of what the court has done today, and will stop fleeing tourists and others", he said.

Inspector Robert Sexton, of Chelsea police, who led the campaign against the gamblers, who he described as "parasites", was equally pleased. "It's the result that I have campaigned for", he said.

The inspector added: "All this would not have been necessary had the Government acted on recommendations of the Royal Commission on Gambling of 1978 for custodial sentences for street gamblers."

The convicted gamblers have instigated an appeal against the conviction and will apply to a judge for bail tomorrow.

Advances in medical research

Psychiatrists study cancer link

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

Women who have suffered breast cancer are to be studied to see whether there is a link between personal crises in their lives and the recurrence of their illness.

The study is trying to discover if serious events, such as family bereavements, have any effect on cancer prognosis. It is being carried out over five years by the psychiatry depart-

ment at Southampton University medical school.

Two hundred and fifty women who have been treated for early breast cancer will be interviewed regularly for three years after diagnosis to chart their experience of "life events".

"This study will show whether there is any increased likelihood of recurrent cancer developing after some personal crisis", Dr Jennifer Hughes, who is conducting the study, said yesterday.

It might be that patients' reactions to "life events" predict recurrence, she said, in which case there would be a place for social and psychological interventions in managing such patients.

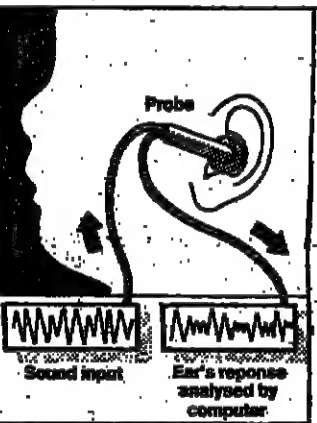
The study, which is being funded with a £100,000 grant from the Medical Research Council, could well have a negative result and serve to dispel much popular myth and misconception, Dr Hughes said.

Psychological aspects of cancer are being investigated on a number of fronts. According to Dr Peter Maguire, of the University of South Manchester, diagnosis and treatment of the disease is associated with substantial psychiatric problems including anxiety, depression, body image problems and conditioned responses.

"It is important that doctors involved in the care of cancer patients actively check whether psychological problems have developed, treat them promptly themselves, or refer them to a psychiatrist or clinical psychologist for help," he writes in the *British Journal of Hospital Medicine*.

In a book published last month, *Cancer: What It Is and How It Is Treated*, authors Howard Smedley, Karol Sikora and Rob Stepany, say: "Cancer is more than a purely physical process."

"There is evidence that attitudes and the way emotions are expressed influence the whole course of the disease, from the predisposition to develop cancer through to the effectiveness of treatment, the likelihood of cure, and the extent to which someone with cancer can readjust to daily life."



absorbs sound, but can also emit a faint echo of the original sound. The new detector collates these echoes and analyses the emitted waves.

The inner ear echoes are analysed by a computer and the characteristics of the ear determined. The results will show the frequency the ear cannot hear. Inability to hear high frequencies is a characteristic of deafness.

Faulty diagnoses blamed for deaths

By Our Science Correspondent

Many patients are dying from diseases that could have been treated if their doctors had made a correct diagnosis, two pathologists say.

They found that illnesses in more than half of 400 post-mortem examination cases had been incorrectly identified.

Even when doctors are confident about their diagnoses, mistakes still occur, the pathologists say, adding there may be too much reliance on sophisticated diagnostic equipment.

Confusion over heart attacks, pneumonia and blood clots were the most common mistakes, probably because of the similar symptoms such as chest pain, breathlessness and fever.

"The mistakes are likely to be made across the country. There is a high diagnostic error rate which varies remarkably little from one institution to another", Dr Jane Mercer and Dr Ian Talbot say in the latest issue of *The Postgraduate Medical Journal*.

The examinations were conducted at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, where the pathologists found potentially treatable diseases "in about 13 per cent of patients."

Almost half of the 134 pneumonia cases were not diagnosed, while doctors failed to diagnose heart attacks in 16 out of 51 patients. The doctors had also diagnosed many conditions which examinations had shown to be non-existent.

Secretaries opt for politeness not flowers

The days of wine and roses are over between bosses and their secretaries when it comes to improving office harmony.

Instead, secretaries prefer a simple "please" and "thank you" from bosses during their working day to bolster office relations.

A Gallup Research Study, commissioned by the office equipment manufacturers, Olympia, interviewed 102 bosses and their secretaries throughout Britain last July, and found most secretaries and bosses shared similar views on what improved a secretary's life in the office.

Only 12 per cent of bosses and 7 per cent of secretaries rated a visit to the local restaurant as important for office morale. Their highest points went to comfort in the office and 86 per cent of bosses and 88 per cent of secretaries preferred a comfortable chair to flowers, champagne on birthdays or office luncheons.

Pier condemned

The 104-year-old pier at Skegness is to be demolished later this year, seven years after it was separated from the shore by storm damage. Its owners, the Skegness Pier Company, say that it would cost at least £1 million to repair.

Steam train to China recalls a golden age

On September 15, 110 people will set off from platform six at Charing Cross station, London, bound for Chang An, the ancient capital of Imperial China.

The occasion marks the 2,100th anniversary of the Silk Road which opened up the Far East in 115BC. Intrepid passengers will pay £5,600 to travel 7,011 miles in just 44 days through 10 countries and 28 cities.

Voyages Jules Verne, the London-based long-haul operators, have spent five years planning "The World's Greatest Railway Adventure". They have chartered 10 special trains, which will follow the Paris to Istanbul Orient Express route.

Travellers will cross Europe via Paris, Salzburg, Vienna and Bucharest, then over the Anatolian Plateau to Mount Ararat. They will then follow the Golden Road to Samarkand to link up with the Silk Road, cutting a picturesque swathe through West and East.

British Rail's new first class livery stock will carry passengers from Charing Cross, and from Paris to Vienna they will travel in 1930s wagon fits.

"The journey does not attempt to imitate the fabulous style of the Orient Express, but travellers will be sitting in contemporary first class com-

partments, pulled by a variety of steam engines. The trip is for travellers who like style, not for rail buffs with a taste for extravagance", Voyages Jules Verne said.

The passengers range from a retired Birmingham railway worker to a San Francisco artist.

Local fire brigades stretching half way across the world have agreed to provide water for the thirty locomotives, many of which are considerably older than the passengers, whose average age is 52.

Mr Philip Morrell, the managing director of Voyages Jules Verne, said that two engines running head would be needed to negotiate the arduous Turkish terrain. And on other stages, a second locomotive will be used to haul the luggage compartments.

The journey will be broken with excursions to mosques, cathedrals and a visit to the oasis city of Samarkand.

"British Rail permitting, passengers and crew will be sent on their way to the accompaniment of the Royal Artillery band. It seems that we are fated, in that every time we plan a 'great journey' from London, there is a rail strike in the offing. If the worst comes to the worst we will depart direct from Folkestone," Mr Morrell said.



A trimmer Mr McIntyre (left), and as he was

Roley-poly slimmer loses 27 stone

A Civil Servant who lost more than 27 stone was named Slimmer of the Year 1985 yesterday in what remarkable success story ever.

Mr Roley McIntyre, aged 33, of Kesh, Northern Ireland, who works as a social security claims interviewer at Enniskillen, dropped from 41st 4lb to his present 13st 7lb after his fight for fitness began four years ago.

Mr McIntyre was awarded the title at the Savoy Hotel in London and won £1,000.

His decision to fight the flab came after he went to a football match in Dublin but could not enter the ground until stewards dismantled the turnstile. At home, his bed was reinforced by timber beams, and his car seat specially modified to contain him.

"A typical lunch comprised half a pound of bacon, three or four eggs, nine or 10 potatoes and a lot of vegetables, all fried, like fried cabbage or turnips. For a while I might have a rice pudding", he said. Now he sticks to a diet of 1,500 calories a day. His wife, Josephine, who was married to him five days ago, put his name forward for the competition, which is sponsored by *Slimming Magazine*. "I can get my arms round him much more easily now", she said.

Customers call for simpler food labels

By John Young

The Government's food labelling proposals are inadequate and will be unintelligible to most people, according to the National Consumer Council.

Suggested guidelines for food labelling published yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food did not include important information about sugar, salt and dietary fibre content, the consumer council said.

The council also urged the ministry not to insist on terms such as "kilocalories", "kilocalories" and "energy" on food labels, as research had indicated that most people do not understand what they mean.

Instead, the council says, the word "caloric" should be used, as it is one of the few widely recognized terms.

The council also recommends that fat content should be listed with "saturates" or "polyunsaturates", leaving out mention of "fatty acids".

Mr Jeremy Michell, director of the council, said simple wording and full information would make it easier for people to follow the recommendations of diet and cardio-vascular disease by the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy.

The committee report said people should eat less fat, particularly saturated fat, and more dietary fibre, and gave a warning against excessive consumption of sugar and salt.

The ministry guidelines make no strong recommendation for listing dietary fibre content, and do not distinguish sugar from carbohydrates.

The Government intends to make only fat labelling compulsory, but the consumer council says that voluntary code of practice can be achieved between government, consumer organizations, food manufacturers and retailers. It should be prepared to legislate.

Comments on the MAFF Guidelines (available from Food Labelling, NCC, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AA, free).

Seat belt success in cutting crash injuries

By Anthony Bevins

The compulsory wearing of seat belts by car drivers and front-seat passengers has cut the number of crash victims requiring hospital admission by a quarter.

A Department of Health and Social Security study of the 1983 seat belt change, described as the most comprehensive of its kind, showed that there had

been a 15 per cent reduction in patients taken to hospital after car accidents.

It has already been calculated that the new law reduced the number of crash deaths by 18 per cent for Britain as a whole.

The DHSS study compared more than 14,000 car accident patients, arriving at 15 hospitals throughout the United Kingdom in the year before and the

year after the January 1983 reform.

The report, published last night, said: "There were fewer patients with severe injuries after legislation, and the number of patients with multiple, severe or minor injuries were reduced."

The study also suggested that there had been a reduction in kidney injuries and fractures of

the thigh-bone - although fractures of the breastbone and sprained necks had apparently risen.

One surprise finding was that while all kinds of head injuries had been reduced for front-seat passengers, drivers had been more liable to suffer severe brain injuries, and fractures of the face and skull.

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30	34	2,128	1,121	1,341	4,590	2,128
35	39	2,123	1,119	1,337	4,579	2,123
40	44	2,111	1,112	1,330	4,553	2,111
45	49	2,099	1,101	1,319	4,506	2,099
50	54	2,081	1,086	1,298	4,445	2,041
55	59	2,054	1,072	1,281	4,357	1,912
60	64	2,012	1,040	1,243	4,180	1,670
65	69	1,975	1,041	1,244	4,260	1,422
70-79	74-79	1,975	1,041	1,244	4,260	1,165
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40	44	5,445	2,870	3,430	11,745	5,445
45	49	5,398	2,839	3,394	11,621	5,388
50	54	5,319	2,803	3,351	11,473	5,265
55	59	5,250	2,767	3,305	11,325	4,935
60	64	5,158	2,739	3,275	11,212	4,315
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(b) Are you receiving, or have you received within the last twelve months, any medical treatment? YES ☐ NO ☐

(c) Do you participate in any hazardous occupation or activity (such as private aviation or deep-sea diving)? YES ☐ NO ☐

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Britain's defence 'vulnerable to nuclear attack by terrorists'

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

A warning that Britain's defences are inadequate against unconventional forms of nuclear attack, possibly by terrorists, is given today by the Editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships*.

In his foreword to the 1985-86 edition, Captain John Moore says that, because of their size and range, nuclear ballistic missiles are rightly considered to present the greatest danger.

"But there are numerous other devices which present a grave threat to mankind. Nuclear-headed torpedoes, mines, nuclear-tipped shells, depth bombs and cruise missiles all come within this category", he says.

"A number of intelligent students have shown how a simple nuclear device can be cobbled together at little expense once the fissile material has been bought or stolen."

Captain Moore says that in this situation the problems of protection against all forms of nuclear assault must be addressed. Mines can be laid by merchant ships and submarines in peacetime, torpedoes can be launched into harbours, submarines carrying cruise missiles, which can be aimed at any area within some 2,000 miles of a coastline, can remain on patrol for months.

"These methods are in addition to the placement of devices by surrogates, terrorists or Soviet Spetsnaz forces which could lie dormant for long periods during a crisis. The security of any State depends on its ability to detect and neutralize such methods of attack."

He says: "From the naval point of view nuclear deterrence rests on the ballistic missile submarine, but security against nuclear attack requires continual surveillance of intruders and vigilance in all waterways and ports. This includes all forms of anti-submarine and mine detection as well as inspection of any unscheduled aircraft. The task is immense, the forces available inadequate."

Captain Moore also challenges Britain's decision to buy

the Trident strategic nuclear missile system instead of placing nuclear cruise missiles on submarines. He comments on the estimated £9,285 millions cost of Trident, and says: "Whatever juggling takes place there can be no doubt about two things: the price will rise and this will have a considerable impact on naval equipment expenditure."

He criticizes two arguments used by the Ministry of Defence against employing cruise missiles for the deterrent. Those are that they would require more submarines than does Trident, and that, because of the shorter range of cruise missiles, the submarines would have less sea-room in which to avoid detection.

Cruise missiles could be carried in non-nuclear submarines, Captain Moore argues, which could be built at far less cost than the Royal Navy's new diesel-powered class, the Type 2400.

The 1,500-mile range credited to cruise missiles would allow a submarine whose target was Moscow to operate around the Outer Hebrides, in the waters of the southern Norwegian Sea and the North Sea. "Anybody who has carried out operations either in or in pursuit of a submarine in the confused waters that exist in all these places might suggest that detection and destruction is by no means easy."

Captain Moore also gives a warning of the possibly serious consequences of the continuing run-down of the British merchant fleet. Between 1970 and 1982 Britain's share of the world merchant fleet fell by 50 per cent. From 1982 to 1984 her tanker fleet was reduced by 18 per cent and breakbulk/general cargo ships by 26 per cent.

"Unless this trend is arrested the British-registered Merchant Navy will be dissipated completely by 1993 and reliance will have to be placed on foreign or flag-of-convenience ships."

Jane's Fighting Ships 1985/86 published by Jane's Publishing Company, £62.50.



Mr Lowery (left) and Mr Falwell cross swords after the latter described Bishop Tutu as a phoney.

Moral Majority mocks Tutu

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Black leaders and senior churchmen reacted furiously yesterday to a stinging attack on Bishop Desmond Tutu by the Rev Jerry Falwell, head of the right-wing evangelical group, Moral Majority.

His simultaneous launching of a million dollar campaign against economic sanctions has heightened bitter conservative divisions over South Africa.

Mr Falwell, just back from a five-day trip to South Africa, said: "If Bishop Tutu says that he speaks for black South Africa, he's a phoney." He urged people to buy kruggerands and to back investment in South Africa by American firms.

Conservatives of all hues believe Mr Falwell, whose ultra-right group claims a membership of seven million, isolated himself by attacking so credible a person as Bishop Tutu, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984. But his stiff opposition to sanctions

prompted a widely differing reaction from conservatives, highlighting deep divisions on the right wing of American politics.

On present showing 10 or 12 conservative Republican senators support President Reagan's opposition to sanctions, leaving the pro-sanction lobby with a hefty majority.

That represents a remarkable shift from the long standing conservative position in support of South Africa. The suddenness of that shift astonished the ultra-right, which only now is getting its anti-sanctions campaign rolling.

Mr Robert Walker, a Republican congressman from Pennsylvania, said: "There is a split in the conservative community... there is now a substantial growing number of conservatives who say: yes, South Africa is important to us strategically but the danger of losing her strategically is greater if we support a

government that is intransigent to change."

The pro-sanctions lobby includes such notable Republicans as Senator Richard Lugar, the chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Senator Robert Dole, the Republican leader.

Mr Falwell said he opposed the sanctions "because I believe we can cut out the cancer without killing the patient and handing over to the Soviet Union one more nation."

Church reaction to his remarks was swift. Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee said Mr Falwell's words "will lead to a polarization between right-wing forces... and liberal and centrist groups in this country."

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, the most prominent American black leader, accused Mr Falwell of acting as an agent of the Reagan Administration and the Reverend Joseph Lowery, head of the Southern Christian

Leadership Conference, described Mr Falwell as "the reincarnation of the old George Wallace".

● Murder scene: Benjamin Moloise, who has been granted a three-week stay of a death sentence due to be carried out yesterday, is prepared to admit he was at the scene of the murder of a black security policeman three years ago, according to his lawyers (Ray Kennedy writes).

Until now, he has maintained he was nowhere near the scene. The outlawed African National Congress, which says it ordered the execution of Warrant Officer Philip Selepe, has stated consistently that Moloise was not involved.

● JOHANNESBURG: Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the jailed African National Congress leader, refused a US State Department offer of \$10,000 to help to rebuild her home after an arson attack last week (AP reports).

Troops stand by as 75,000 see Bhutto son buried

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

About 75,000 people turned out to pay their last respects yesterday to Shahnawaz Bhutto, the 27-year-old younger son of the executed Pakistani Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Before his body was lowered into a grave beside that of his father in their ancestral graveyard near Larkana.

There were emotional scenes at the funeral rites. Miss Benazir Bhutto, the late Prime Minister's eldest child, who brought back her brother's body from France, repeatedly broke down. The crowd, watched by heavily armed security forces, remained peaceful although anti-regime slogans were frequently raised.

Although there had been strong fears of violence during the funeral ceremonies, no serious incidents were reported either at Larkana or in Karachi. Funeral prayers were offered in a number of other cities and towns in Pakistan for Shahnawaz Bhutto.

Security forces yesterday virtually sealed off Karachi airport, refusing access to all unauthorized persons. Miss Bhutto, with the coffin and about 20 relatives and associates of the late Prime Minister, were transferred from a Singapore Airlines plane arriving from Zurich to a Pakistani aircraft for the flight to Mohenjodaro airport, 200 miles away, near Larkana.

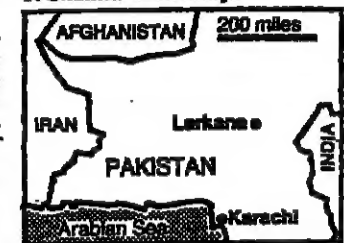
The tight security for Shahnawaz Bhutto's last journey to his family grave near Larkana was due to apprehension that the occasion might release the pent-up feelings of the supporters of the late Prime Minister, who was buried quietly in April 1979 after he had been hanged in Rawalpindi.

Shahnawaz Bhutto died in mysterious circumstances from a still undisclosed cause more than a month ago in his seaside flat in Cannes. Although a political nonentity while his father was alive, Shahnawaz and his elder brother, Murtaza, were accused by Pakistan's military regime of organizing the underground Al-Zulfikar movement to avenge the execution of their father and of acts of subversion, including the successful hijacking of a Pakistani airliner four years ago. They escaped arrest because they had been out of the country since Mr Bhutto was deposed by General Zia ul-Haq in July 1977.

Miss Benazir Bhutto went abroad about 20 months ago. The entire family have been out of Pakistan apart from the youngest daughter, Sanam, who has not involved herself in politics.

There was a considerable show of strength by the authorities in Karachi, where the Bhuttos have spent a good deal of their time. Troop vehicles patrolled some areas.

The day before, police arrested a number of People's Party and other opposition group leaders who were suspected of organizing mass funeral prayers or pro-Bhutto demonstrations on the arrival of Shahnawaz's body.



Paris-Bonn drive to reform EEC

From Sheila Jones, Bonn

Efforts appeared to be under way in Bonn last night to prepare a watertight Franco-German case for reform of the European Community later this year, in the face of anticipated opposition from the British.

The West German Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, met his French counterpart, M. Roland Dumas, in hastily arranged private talks in Bonn last night ahead of next month's EEC conference in Luxembourg. Further talks will take place in the South of France on Saturday between Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Mitterrand.

The EEC decided in Milan in June that reform was necessary within the Community, but they failed to agree on terms. Britain, Denmark and Greece want to retain the Treaty of Rome under which the EEC is constituted, and retain the right of national veto while curbing its use.

But France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg, want to end veto rights in the European Parliament, to speed up decision making and to push through reforms of the treaty.

The talks last night between Herr Genscher and M. Dumas are likely to have touched on the French Eureka technology project, and on the Eurofighter project.

Earlier this month, France dropped out of plans to develop a European fighter jet for the 1990s after West Germany came down on the side of the British design concept rather than the French. France has also been concerned over Herr Kohl's enthusiasm for the US Strategic Defence Initiative and his concomitant lack of support for the French Eureka programme.

Policeman used gun 'illegally'

Athens - A Greek policeman

whose gun killed a British woman holiday maker with the same shot which wounded her American fiancé in a scuffle at a seaside resort last week, has been charged with attempted murder and illegal use of arms (Metro Media writes).

The Athens director of public prosecutions found that the policeman, Nikos Stathopoulos, aged 25, had lost his nerve and shot at Mr Michael Taylor, aged 26, a geophysicist from Texas, "in anger", when the couple driving a car refused to submit to a check by three plainclothes policemen in an unmarked police car. The bullet pierced Mr Taylor's leg fatally injuring Catherine Bull, who had been thrown to the ground by the policeman.

Britain extends food aid flights

The British charter of a Hercules aircraft, ferrying

emergency food aid from Khartoum to famine-stricken areas of Western Sudan, is to be extended for a further two months at a cost of £1.3 million, the Overseas Development Administration announced (Our Political Correspondent writes).

The charter began last month for a Save the Children Fund airlift, and Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, has also approved a further £300,000 to help maintain the fund's 132 lorry road haulage operation in western Sudan.

Audis recalled

Wolfsburg (AFP) - The West

German company, Volkswagen-Audi, announced here that it was recalling a million of its cars - half of them sold abroad - because of faulty brake pipes. A spokesman said the flexible pipes had hairline cracks and could burst "in two to three years".

Wine arrests

Vienna - Two more wine

merchants were arrested by Austrian police (ringing the total held in connection with the country's wine scandal to 47). The latest arrests included the mother of a young wine dealer investigated by Austrian police last month.

Guiana anger

Paris - A French Guianese

Socialist party delegation arrived here to meet ministers over the presence of French Legionnaires in Kourou, in connection with last week's disturbances during which Legionnaires ransacked part of the town.

Arms ban

Stockholm (Reuters) - Sweden

has banned all arms shipments to Singapore after prosecutors said missiles sold to the country had been illegally diverted to the Middle East, the Foreign Trade Ministry said.

Correction

The opening paragraph in a report, "Star Wars, popularity fades" (August 15), should have read: "A majority of Americans interviewed in a poll late last month said they disapproved of President Reagan's Star Wars plan in the light of criticisms made against it." The last sentence of the report should have read: "But only 30 per cent of the women approved, while 65 per cent disapproved."

Painting on wall not vandalism

A Breakdance team which painted a 21ft long mural on a

drab car park wall was cleared of vandalism by magistrates at Teignmouth, Devon, yesterday. The dancers painted the 7ft high mural with their group's name, "Dead Zone", and the message "Hip Hop Don't Stop" on a wall at Dawlish to try to brighten it up, but the three artists were arrested and accused of criminal damage. But the magistrates dismissed the case after hearing the three had not intended to cause harm.

Richard Stott, of Barton Crescent, Dawlish, Kenneth Hall, of North Lodge Crescent, Dawlish, both unemployed and both 17, and a boy, aged 15, denied causing £142 damage to a wall beside the council-owned garage at Barton Hill, Dawlish.

Det Constable Gerald Channon said a witness had called him and a colleague after seeing the painters, and they had chased them and identified the three responsible. All admitted painting the mural with seven cans of different coloured car paint and all said they knew they had done wrong, and the three had taken more than an hour over the mural, while four of their fellow dancers watched. They had designed it earlier.

After the case he said: "Now people are going to be doing paintings all over the country. I saw a thing on the telly about Prince Charles giving out grants to people in Covent Garden to do Breakdance pictures full of life. It is not graffiti, it is art."

Sandwich bar woman wins margarine case

Miss Tina Coles, aged 25, a sandwich maker, who lost her job for putting too much margarine in her employer's lunchtime roll, was unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal at Bristol has ruled.

The Tribunal awarded her £844.66 because her employers, Mr Bernard Rogers, owner of a sandwich bar behaved unreasonably.

The tribunal says in a reserved judgement, that the owner of Woodes, in Park Street, Bristol, was perfunctory in the extreme and failed to establish that it was another employee and not Miss Coles, who put too much margarine in his lunchtime snack. But they say Miss Coles, who had worked at Woodes for seven years, acted indifferently when she was told she would be dismissed and contributed to Mr Rogers' state of ignorance. The tribunal reduced the amount awarded by a third, saying: "We are not sure at all that she herself made any efforts to put her case".

BBC shows real-life Soviet Union

A revealing television series about present-day life in the Soviet Union will go out on BBC 2 this autumn. BBC cameras spent 21 months travelling in the country to film the series.

Dead before has a Western film crew been allowed such access. The 12-part documentary includes interviews with a cross section of Soviet citizens, including a doctor, a Red Army recruit, a mountain lion trapper and a grandmother on a collective farm.

It is one of the highlights of a £30 million line-up of drama, documentary, music and light entertainment programmes for BBC 2.

Announcing the line-up yesterday, Mr Graham McDonald, controller of BBC 2, said: "There are 49 new series this autumn, 18 of them brand new to television. They amount to more than 500 hours of BBC originated material and I am delighted to offer programming of such strength, quality and diversity."

Highlighting the drama season is a definite six-part adaptation of J. R. R. Tolkien's moving love story, *Tender is the Night*, with a cast including Peter Strass, Mary Steenburgen, Edward Agner and Piper Laurie. It has been filmed on location in Switzerland and France.

Dorothy Tutin plays screen mother to her real daughter, Amanda Warren, in Strindberg's *The Father*, a searing portrayal of marital warfare which also stars Colin Blakely and Edward Fox.

Stars in other productions include Tom Courtenay, Charles Dancy, Nigel Hawthorne, Anthony Sher, Maureen Lipman and Kenneth Cranham. The plays range from Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan* to Alan Ayckbourn's comedy, *Absent Friends*.

The opera contributions include Covent Garden productions of Visconti's *Don Carlos* and *Amore e Morte* with Plácido Domingo, Sir Peter Hall's Glyndebourne production of *Albert Herring* and Jonathan Miller's new studio production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

Queens - a Cambridge College is a 10-part series about life in the University College, and *Now the War is Over* is an eight-part series about life in Britain during the first six years after the Second World War.

Comedy and Light entertainment will see Windsor Davies starring in *The New Statesman*, a new series about a museum curator who inherits a title and a seat in the House of Lords. Films will include seasons to mark the eightieth birthdays of Greta Garbo and the British filmmaker, Michael Powell, and the thirtieth anniversary of the death of James Dean.

Thousands mourn at cremation of murdered Sikh leader

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

Thousands of mourners, including Hindus, yesterday watched the cremation of Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, the moderate Sikh leader, who was shot dead by four Sikh extremists on Tuesday. The cremation, with full state honours, was performed at his home village, Longowal.

Kirpal Singh, a high priest from Amritsar's Golden Temple, lit the pyre, which was decked with flowers and wreaths, including ones from the President and the Prime Minister of India.

Police found it difficult to control the crowd that gathered at the cremation ground. They made a mild lathi charge to control mourners, who chanted: "Longowal Zindabad" (Long live Longowal). Women beat

their breasts to show their grief. The body was taken in a procession from Sangrur, where Longowal died in hospital, to the village, a distance of about 13 miles. More than 200 cars drove behind the van carrying Longowal's body.

India's Defence Minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the Lok Sabha Speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, were among the mourners at the village. The Energy Minister, Mr Arun Nehru, represented the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

All towns and government offices in Punjab and Haryana remained closed as a mark of respect to Longowal. Both houses of parliament were adjourned for the day after leaders of different political parties had paid tributes

The ruling Congress (I) party passed a resolution that a fitting tribute to Longowal would be a "determined fight" against the forces which were out to destroy national unity.

However, anger and anguish over the assassination of Longowal did not deter extremists from firing at and wounding a Hindu civil servant, Ravinder Kumar Walia, in Jalandhar, where a Congress (I) functionary was shot dead on Tuesday.

Two time-bombs were found in a bus in Delhi and defused.

As a precautionary measure, Ludhiana, an industrial town in Punjab, has been placed under curfew. People injured at Longowal have been brought here for treatment.

Longowal death leaves vacuum

From Our Correspondent, Delhi

The assassination of Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, the Sikh Akali Dal leader, has dealt a severe blow to the recent Punjab accord. Longowal was carrying the entire burden of implementation.

He could not bring round Mr Prakash Singh Badal, former chief minister of Punjab, and Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, head of the Shromoni Gurdwara Prabandak committee, which manages Sikh temples and funds. They wield quite a lot of influence in the Akali party.

They vainly opposed endorsement of the accord at the party's convulse three weeks ago. Now, with Longowal gone, they may regain lost ground.

On the other hand, the breakaway "United" Akali party has relentlessly opposed the accord. Though representing 15 to 20 per cent of the Sikh community, the faction has strong support among women and youth, who were swayed by the fundamentalist Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a hawk, who was killed when the Army

entered the Golden Temple at Amritsar 15 months ago.

Mr Joginder Singh, who now leads the faction, is the father of Bhindranwale. Extremists, who have indulged in indiscriminate killings in Punjab and who shot Longowal, owe allegiance to this faction. They are also the people who dream about Khalistan, an independent Sikh state.

With opposition within and without the Akali Party, Longowal's presence was considered essential for the accord to survive the coming poll in Punjab, scheduled for September 22. Few leaders in the party have the influence or courage to fight the election on the basis of the accord. Longowal was, in fact, converting the election into a referendum on the accord.

This does not mean that the accord is practically dead for the Akalis, but that it may face more opposition in the future than at present. It appears that dissidents within the Akali Party, who did not say anything in the presence of Longowal, may seek more clarifications, if

not concessions, from the Indian Government.

Delhi is committed to the accord and does not want to defer the poll, though all opposition parties in parliament have demanded its postponement on grounds that conditions are not conducive to a peaceful poll.

However, immediate polls may pose difficulties for the Akalis. Longowal was authorized by the party to nominate candidates and to enter into an alliance with any party he liked. Now there is no one to replace him.

The party executive may elect another leader, who could be either Mr Badal or Mr Tohra - who have not accepted the accord fully and who favour postponement of elections - rather than Mr Balwant Singh, former Punjab finance minister, who negotiated the accord on behalf of Longowal, or Surjeet Singh Barnala, a former central government agriculture minister. *Obituary, page 12*

Star Wars defended, page 6

Satellite destroyer will give US space initiative

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

America's planned first test of an anti-satellite weapon marks a rapid acceleration in superpower competition to seize the military initiative in space. The US system is a high technology device, in sharp contrast to what experts describe as the Soviet Union's cumbersome "blunderbuss".

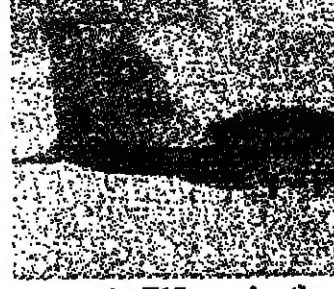
It appears that the US is about to leap decisively ahead of Russia in the quest for reliable anti-satellite techniques. The Soviet Union has for years had the only operational system, a primitive but perhaps reasonably effective weapon launched by a huge liquid-fuelled rocket. America's air-launched device is merely 18ft long.

The Reagan Administration's determination to compete with

Russia's anti-satellite ability will cast a further shadow over the November summit in Geneva between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

While not wishing to blight the talks in advance, Washington officials are cautious about the prospects for progress in key arms control areas. Somewhat tongue-in-cheek, the White House said there was no reason why the test should have any impact on the summit.

America's system is launched from an F15 fighter from an altitude of 18 miles. A missile boosted by a two-stage rocket speeds in a direct line towards the vicinity of the target. A high technology "jewel" on the tip of the missile, packed with elec-



An F15 carrying the anti-satellite missile.

tronic equipment, separates and locks on to the target.

Fifty-six tiny rockets send the warhead on a high speed collision course with the enemy satellite, which is destroyed by the impact without explosives.

● MOSCOW: Tass accused Washington yesterday of using irrelevant and false arguments

to allay public fears over President Reagan's decision to resume testing an anti-satellite weapon (Reuters reports).

In the first reaction from Moscow to Mr Reagan's announcement, Tass said the proposed tests were a "new challenge to the world" and had caused a wave of criticism

Administration officials "made recourse to false justifications" in an attempt to impress on the US public that the tests would contribute towards progress in the Geneva talks the Soviet agency said.

The White House spokesman, Mr Larry Speakes, said on Tuesday that the tests, in which a small weapon will be fired at an old US satellite, would give Moscow an incentive to reach agreement at the talks on nuclear and space arms.

The Soviet Union already has a rudimentary anti-satellite system and has offered to call a moratorium on testing if the United States stops its trials. Moscow has said US deployment of an anti-satellite weapon would heighten the space arms race.

Greece tightens law and offers rewards in hunt for forest arsonists

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Three big forest fires were still raging in northern Greece yesterday as the Greek Government announced rewards of 30 million drachmas (about £130,000) for information leading to the capture of arsonists.

The rewards, the most striking of a series of measures approved by the Inner Cabinet on Tuesday, reflect the view of Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, that the spate of forest fires in Greece in the past two months is part of a plot to produce political destabilisation.

Opposition critics dismiss the conspiracy theory and argue that the rewards will at best be as ineffectual as those offered in 1982 after a comparable wave of forest fires, and that they could touch off a dangerous "witch-hunt" nationwide.

Four Italian tourists were detained and questioned by police near Kavala, in northern Greece after claims that their

car had been seen fleeing from a burning wood. They were freed when no incriminating evidence was found.

A boy, aged 13, who admitted starting a fire in an olive grove at Galatas, south of Poros Island, to spite its owner, told a Piraeus magistrate that police had used threats to force him to confess that he had also started another 10 local fires.

Six Greek farmers have so far been detained on suspicion of fire-raising, mostly in circumstances suggesting negligence. The Inner Cabinet has decided to tighten legislation for the protection of forests: to set up a mobile fire-fighting squad; and to launch a programme for the re-education and training of local people in preventing and fighting forest fires.

The inter-ministerial committee responsible for co-ordinating official action yesterday announced that the week-long conflagration which consumed

Protesters clash with troops at Aquino rally

Manila (AP, AFP) - More than 35,000 people marched through Manila yesterday in the biggest anti-government protests in a year, marking the second anniversary of the assassination of the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino.

Soldiers used hoses to break up another demonstration by 5,000 in the central Philippines city of Cebu. Sixteen protesters and four soldiers were injured as demonstrators threw stones in retaliation, witnesses said.

Clouds of confetti poured from office windows as 15,000 people, braving heavy rain, clogged a big intersection in Manila's Makati financial district. Aquino's widow, Corason, urged chanting protesters to say "goodbye" to President Marcos.

More than 20,000 people in a more militant protest confronted barbed-wire barricades and anti-riot troops around Mr Marcos's palace. They chanted "NPA is growing," in support of the Communist New People's Army, which has been fighting the Government, mostly in rural areas.

Protest also took place in other cities, including General Santos, Naga, Legaspi, Dagupan, and Laoag. The Government news agency reported a pro-government counter-rally by 20,000 in Laoag, capital of Mr Marcos's home province.

A report from Naga, 155 miles from Manila, said a policeman was shot dead by three assailants.

Thousands of people stood in a heavy downpour, ribbing those who used umbrellas, which the opposition considers a symbol of the first lady, Mrs Imelda Marcos.



Mrs Aquino placing a wreath on a statue of her husband during the rally in Manila's Makati district.

The Opposition leader, Mr Salvador Laurel, waved a sheaf of papers he said was evidence of property the Marcoses and their "cronies" had accumulated abroad. "We'll never rest until those who are guilty of Aquino's murder are punished."

Yellow banners showing Aquino's face dominated the financial district crowd. Red banners against the "US-

Marcos dictatorship" prevailed at the other Manila rally.

The two colours show a split among Marcos opponents on what tactics should be used against him. Aquino's brother, Apapito, told the yellow-banner protesters: "I don't want the Communists to take over from Marcos." But he said that if Mr Marcos did not allow peaceful elections and cheated, then "I will be with those who have arms because that means

removed by armed means".

Representatives of both the moderate and military groups attended a Mass yesterday for Aquino followers and family members. Cardinal Jaime Sin said in his sermon that the country has been thrown into violence because "no guilt has been confessed, no role has been acknowledged, no responsibility has been accepted" in the assassination.

Colombo to investigate allegation of atrocity

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

A military commission will be appointed to inquire into the outbreak of violence in Vavuniya in the northern province of Sri Lanka last Friday, President Jayewardene announced yesterday.

The Government said 19 people had been killed when a landmine exploded, but there have been complaints that the security forces went on a shooting spree, allegedly killing up to 70 people.

President Jayewardene said the inquiry would begin immediately and would be headed by high-ranking military officers. The cabinet spokesman, Dr Anandaissa de Alwis said the commission was being appointed because of the conflicting reports about the incident.

Tamil separatists negotiating with the Sri Lanka Government in Thimphu, Bhutan, walked out of the talks last Saturday, in protest over the incident in Vavuniya.

President Jayewardene also said yesterday that the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had spoken to him on Tuesday and that he expected some results from Thimphu.

The cabinet has approved additional military spending, which would amount to 15 per cent of Sri Lanka's budget.

● Hanger strike: Five Tamil rebels detained for 18 months under provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act have gone of hunger strike, prison officials said yesterday (AP reports).

Three of them have been hospitalized. Their condition has not yet reached a stage where they need force feeding.

Prague praises 1968 invasion

Vienna (Reuters) - The Czechoslovak Communist Party newspaper yesterday praised the 1968 Soviet-Warsaw Pact invasion, saying it had created a solid base for the development of socialism and had helped defend world peace.

The leading article, in *Rude Pravo* marking the seventeenth anniversary of the invasion, was virtually identical to those of earlier years, praising the 1968 repression of party-led reforms as "internationalist action to

save socialism in Czechoslovakia".

As in the past, *Rude Pravo* ignored an anniversary statement issued by the human rights group, Charter 77, which called on the authorities to introduce economic and political reforms similar to those adopted by other Eastern bloc states.

Several Charter 77 signatories have been detained in the past 10 days as police sought copies of the statement, which was

released on Tuesday, dissident sources in Vienna said.

● Albanian attack: Albania, Moscow's erstwhile ally, yesterday condemned the invasion of Czechoslovakia and said both superpowers were bent on European dominance (AP reports).

Albania "denounced indignantly the occupation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet social imperialists as an open-type aggression", the official ATA news agency said.

Amnesty lists more missing in Peru

By Colin Harding

At least 42 people "disappeared" in the first five months of this year in the south-central Andes of Peru, where the armed forces have been fighting the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrilla group since the end of 1982. These are in addition to more than 1,000 cases documented by Amnesty International up to the end of 1984.

Amnesty believes, on the basis of sworn testimony by relatives and other witnesses, that all the disappeared people had previously been detained by units of the three armed services, the paramilitary Civil Guard, the plain clothes police (PIP) or irregular civilian patrols organized by the military.

Of the list of more than 1,000 names published by Amnesty, the authorities have since acknowledged that four are being held in barracks or police stations. A further 43 have been released, and six found dead, presumably the victims of "extra-judicial executions." The rest have simply disappeared.



Niki Lauda: Confronting his national airline.

Lauda races into a row

Vienna - Niki Lauda, the Austrian world champion Grand Prix driver, who has announced his retirement from Formula One racing to devote more time to his charter airline, seems likely to anger the country's national airline (Richard Bassett writes).

Lauda said yesterday that his Lauda Air would be buying two Boeing 737 jets for charter flights to Greece.

The decision is expected to deprive Austrian Airways' charter services of at least 10 per cent of its customers. One important Greek tour company has already notified Austrian Airways that it is switching to Lauda Air.

The national airline has yet to comment on the Lauda plan

Coke told to reveal its recipe

Atlanta (AP) - A federal judge has ordered the Coca Cola Company to reveal its secret formula, but the company has vowed it will not divulge the 99-year-old recipe.

The order, made on Tuesday, came in a suit filed in 1983 by a group of 40 small Coca Cola bottlers over the company's pricing policies, particularly the price of Diet Coke syrup.

The bottlers are trying to prove that the beverages do not substantially differ and should be sold under the same pricing structure.

Judge Murray Schwartz, whose ruling came in a pre-trial action, said the bottlers need the recipe to prove Diet Coke was the same product as Coca Cola. He said he would issue an order to prevent them becoming public knowledge.

Coca Cola has faced similar petitions before and never lost. "The company has never disclosed the secret formulas for its products and that policy will not change," a spokesman said.

The formula was developed in 1886 by an Atlanta pharmacist who made the first batch in a brass pot in his back yard.

The recipe is one of the best-kept secrets in American industry. It is locked in an Atlanta bank vault and is known only to a few company executives.

The maximum penalty for conspiracy is five years in prison and a fine of \$10,000. A bribery conviction carries a 15-year jail term and a fine of \$20,000.

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Assembly backs law change for New Caledonia

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

The amended law of the future of New Caledonia has been passed by the National Assembly, sitting in extraordinary session at the request of President Mitterrand, immediately after the Senate voted against it. It was carried by the Socialist majority, with the other parties, including the Communists, united in opposition.

The law differs in only one respect from that adopted by Parliament on July 26: the number of councillors representing the Nouméa region in the regional elections rises from 18 to 21.

Opposition deputies and senators, led by former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and the president of the Senate, M. Alain Poirer, are once again referring the law to the Constitutional Council for two reasons. They say the number of councillors in the Nouméa region in relation to the other three regions is still not high enough and that President Mitterrand's method of recalling Parliament was unconstitutional.

The Constitutional Council has eight days to deliberate on the referral. M. Edgar Pisani, Minister in Charge of New Caledonia, says that if the council does not uphold the objections, he expects regional elections in the territory to be held between September 21 and October 9.

Opposition deputies in Parliament for the debate also raised the question of the sinking in New Zealand of the Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace ship. During heated discussions on both sides, M. André Labarrère announced that the inquiry report on alleged French involvement in the sinking would be ready by the middle of next week and that the Prime Minister, M. Laurent Fabius, would be going on television once the results were known.

There is speculation in the opposition press that the report will implicate middle-level officials only and not reach ministerial level. The Minister of Defence, M. Charles Hernu, said he found a journalist's question as to whether he was considering resigning "very amusing". He added: "I haven't dreamt of resigning."

M. Bernard Stasi, a former minister for Overseas departments and territories in the early 1970s said that he had vigorously opposed an idea 12 years ago to sink a Greenpeace vessel in a prohibited area near Tahiti.

In Papeete, 18 Tahitian independence militants have been standing trial on various charges in connection with disturbances on the island in March. Their leader, Charlie Ching, told the court that he had had contact in New Zealand in February with a member of the Greenpeace organization in connection with Rainbow Warrior's planned activities in the area.

French Government faces more protests on Pacific



Frau Petra Kelly of West Germany's Greens at the French Embassy in Bonn yesterday when the party delivered a letter protesting about French nuclear tests in the Pacific.

Bombed ship raised as Greenpeace fleet sails for atoll

From Richard Long, Wellington

Buoyed by 13 flotation bags and with steel plates covering the gaping holes in its hull, the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior, was raised from the bed of Auckland harbour yesterday, six weeks to the day after saboteurs sank the vessel, apparently in an effort to halt a protest flotilla to the French nuclear testing site at Mururoa Atoll.

Police and navy experts began examining the hull and searched for clues to the type of explosives used and their origin.

The sinking has had reverberations in France, with an inquiry under way, allegations of the involvement of French security services, and a pledge by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, of legal action if such involvement can be substantiated.

The 450-tonne Rainbow Warrior, veteran of protest actions, which have embarrassed several governments, took four hours to raise on a rising tide, but a Greenpeace spokesman and navy experts said it was too damaged to sail again.

Ironically, the Rainbow Warrior sabotage has fuelled a backlash which will this year bring the biggest protest flotilla ever seen off Mururoa: six vessels likely to give French naval patrols problems as they attempt to steer them out of the exclusion zone surrounding the atoll testing site south-east of Tahiti.

The Greenpeace-owned yacht, Vega, arrested in the zone in 1981, leaves Auckland today and will be joined next week by the twin-hulled catamaran, Varamian, the small yacht, Shilo, and the brigantine, Breeze. The steel-hulled scow, Alliance, sailed for Mururoa on August 3.

The ocean-going tug, Greenpeace, sailed from Amsterdam this week and will rendezvous with other vessels off Mururoa.

New Zealand Foreign Ministry officials confirmed that, under instructions from the Prime Minister, they were preparing for an international legal action against the French Government concerning the Rainbow Warrior explosion.

This would include a claim for the family of the Greenpeace crew member killed in the explosion, as well as compensation for Greenpeace and the New Zealand Government.

● Campaign abandoned: A planned campaign of direct action against Icelandic whaling ships has been abandoned because it feared such action would serve only to stiffen the whalers' resolve (A Correspondent writes). The Greenpeace campaign ship, Sirius, which received a hostile reception when it arrived in Reykjavik earlier this month, has left Iceland bound for Amsterdam.

Greenpeace objects to Iceland's proposals to kill more than 200 whales next year for scientific research. The catch will include the extremely rare blue and humpback whales.

JAL 747 carried radioactive cargo

Boston (NYT) - The Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 which crashed 10 days ago, was carrying 61 packages of radioactive material manufactured in the United States for medical research and diagnosis in Japan, according to the New England Nuclear Corporation, a subsidiary of Du Pont.

A spokesman for the firm, Mr Charles Killian, said it was unlikely that the radiation levels were high enough to affect the four survivors or rescue workers. He said Japanese authorities had been told before rescue workers reached the site that the materials were on board.

In Washington, however, a memorandum sent to the five members of the nuclear regulatory Commission by the commission's staff last week said that the packages could pose a potential health hazard if they were damaged during the crash.

Mr James Shea, the Director of the commission's office of international programmes, said the Japanese had reported finding some of the packages intact. They had not encountered any problem and had not reported finding any radiation levels to suggest packages were broken open.

The material involved included iodine 125, which is a hazard if taken internally, and phosphorus 32, which can be an external hazard.

According to Mr Killian, the material is shipped in very small amounts. If the largest phial of phosphorus had come to rest a yard from the exposed skin of a survivor or rescue worker, about 300 millilitres an hour, which he called a nuisance amount.

● TOKYO - Sobbing and praying, dozens of bereaved relatives in chartered helicopters yesterday circled the forested mountaintop where the 747 crashed, killing all but four of the 524 people aboard (AP reports).

Misty, rainy weather lifted at Midday to allow the first of several flights by the aircraft, specially chartered by JAL, at the request of families of victims whose bodies have yet to be found or identified.

Pilots tossed flowers, chocolates and letters from cockpit windows as two helicopters circled for 15 minutes above the 5,408ft Mount Oosima, 70 miles north-west of Tokyo. About 80 people went on the first four flights accompanied by five JAL officials.

The Gunma prefectural police spokesman, Mr Yoshiyoshi Shibakawa said yesterday that 489 bodies had so far been recovered and 412 identified. Doctors have said that the condition of the bodies means some may never be identified.

According to Republican strategists, seven Republican senators are vulnerable next year.

Resignation boost for Democrats

From Michael Binyon Washington

Senator Paul Laxalt's decision not to seek re-election has added an unexpected twist to the 1986 mid-term congressional elections, alarming his fellow Republicans and raising hopes among Democrats that they may, after all, be able to recapture control of the Senate.

The Nevada Senator, who is 63, a close friend of President Reagan and general chairman of the Republican Party, is stepping down from a seat he has confidently held for 11 years. With a new Republican candidate, the Democrats suddenly have a sporting chance to win in territory they had all but abandoned.

Mr Paul Kirk, the Democratic Party chairman, said that with only a few gains necessary to overturn the Republicans' 53-47 majority, "every seat counts".

About 22 Republican senators are up for re-election next year, and many are growing nervous about their prospects. Given the lacklustre performance of the Reagan Administration in the first six months of its second term, the President's personal popularity may no longer be enough to protect them against growing electoral opposition to many of the Administration's domestic policies. Only 12 Democratic senators have to face the electorate.

In addition, some noted Republicans in the party's liberal wing are under pressure from conservative ideologues, who are keen to purge the party of what they see as dangerous pragmatists. If Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland were also to step down, as rumoured, the Democrats would see a chance to recapture much of the liberal vote, and the seat, from this popular senator.

According to Republican strategists, seven Republican senators are vulnerable next year.

Star Wars defended as rational

From Peter Nichols Erice, Sicily

The most destabilizing event in nuclear science would be the surprise emergence of a totally new arms system, the international conference of nuclear scientists was told here yesterday.

Professor Robert Budwin, of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, made the statement in his introduction to a discussion of the US Strategic Defence Initiative.

He was defending the American determination to carry out research into Star Wars as part of the "rational reaction to an irrational situation". But he was implicitly helping to explain the absence of the Soviet delegation by underlining the hold which secrecy still exercises in nuclear matters.

The object of this meeting is to underline the importance of openness and the growing insignificance in science of national frontiers.

This fifth conference of the Erice series was intended to change the character of the annual meetings. Already, Erice is unique in bringing together the world's leading nuclear scientists for informal discussions.

The Russians were present at the last two and this time the organizers, supported by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister, had intended it would move from discussion to more realistic matters.

Signor Andreotti's own speech on Tuesday was a plea for giving a greater hearing in disarmament negotiations to the scientists who, he proposed, would work with a wide degree of freedom to exchange information.

The concept was to turn Erice into a forum which would complement the Geneva disarmament talks.

But it may have been the reason why the Russians decided to stay away.

Pinochet opponents take to the streets again

From Florence Varas, Santiago

About 120 people were arrested in clashes with riot police and several bombs exploded in Santiago on Tuesday, as groups opposed to the Government of General Pinochet again took to the streets.

The past few weeks have seen an increase in opposition activity with 10 bombings in 10 days.

While no political group has claimed responsibility for the explosions, junta member Admiral Merino said "extremists", who wanted to damage US-Chilean relations and external debt negotiations by forcing the Government to declare a state of siege, were responsible for the bombings.

The latest opposition activity follows the August 2 resignation of junta member General César Mendoza, head of the Carabineros, the militarized police, General Mendoza's departure was followed by the retirement of six police generals (out of 19) and 17 colonels (out of 64).

The police helicopter overflew the school where two of the Communist Party leaders were abducted.

The aftermath of the coup

Living on hope in Kampala

From Richard Dowden, Kampala

The old man fell into my arms the night before and prayed before the religious pictures on the wall of his home.

It had not just been 13 years. For him it had been 13 years of fear and horror. First Idi Amin's terrifying rule, then, in 1979, civil war and liberation, but within a year hopes disintegrated and casual murder, theft and persecution returned.

In the days after the coup three weeks ago, soldiers had marched into his home four times and he had managed to give them enough to save his life. An army lorry has also driven into his car, tipping off a wing.

A man of immeasurable dignity, he had been a good friend when I lived here in the early 1970s. For his own safety he prefers to remain anonymous.

He has 13 children and his family is the only one in the village not to have had members killed, a feat of survival he will only ascribe to the will of God.

With an inexplicable optimism he said: "Now we have a change. Maybe we will have peace."

His home is a small mud and plaster house with a corrugated iron roof on the outskirts of Kampala. He is self-sufficient in food and sells eggs from his 300 chickens. Water from the roofs is collected in huge butts and rarely runs out. The house has electricity, but if it goes off from time to time he does not worry.

For those without their own food, life has become very difficult. Why is it that a poor country is one of the most expensive? Matooke, the green bananas, which are mashed and steamed and provide the staple diet here, used to cost nine shillings (40p) a stick in 1971.

A stick, the whole branch of bananas, will give a family of six three meals, so a small family here needs at least four sticks a week. Each one now costs 4,000 shillings (£5).

Meat costs £1.14 a lb and a chicken about £2.73. Salt and sugar are more expensive here than in Britain and are often unavailable.

For the peasant farmers in Uganda who need to buy clothes, salt, and sugar, their only source of income, coffee, has dropped in value in recent years from £1.36 a lb to about 18p a lb.

Sometimes they are given chits instead of money for their raw coffee and many have let their bushes run wild.

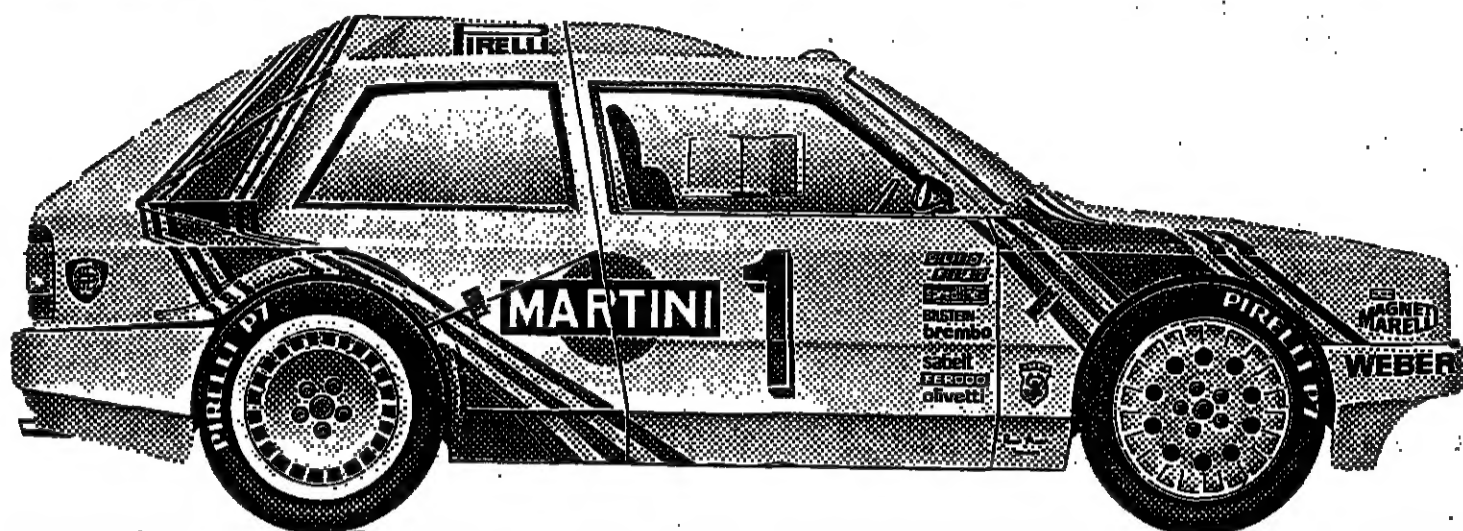
Another family which lives on the other side of Kampala used to have a reasonably prosperous Western lifestyle. Buying most of their food and cooking on gas.

Both parents were educated in Britain and had jobs in town. The children went to the best schools. They had a new Japanese car and a breezeblock house.

Now they are building an extension for their son out of mud bricks. With cement at £20 a bag, there is no choice.

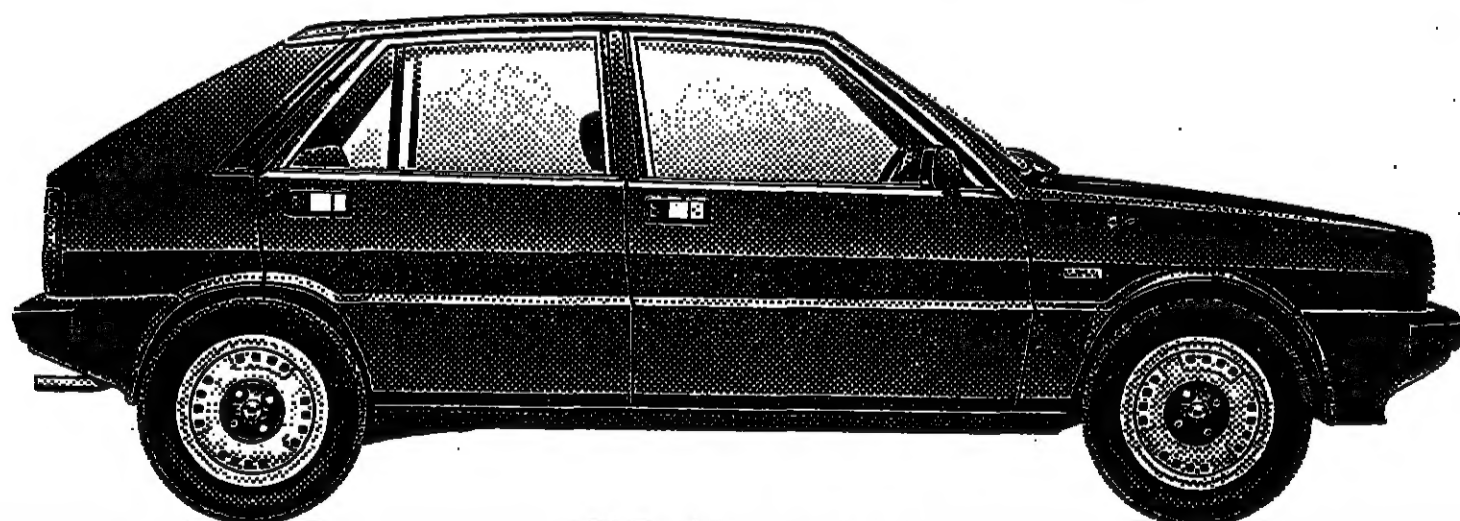
The mother works the shamba (garden plot) and sells what produce she can by the side of the road. They, too, have survived Amin and Obote, but have had narrow escapes and their house looted. Their youngest son last week was bruised and cut from an encounter with soldiers who had beaten him up and taken everything from him except his clothes.

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BOOKS

Hunchback, gardener and poet of his age

Pope was very keen on posterity and would have been disappointed at the amount of attention his biography has been given until now. His poems and letters he was able to edit himself, but Warburton failed to write the expected Life, sitting on the project until it was too late for Spence to do so. In this century there has been no complete attempt at a full biography, although much has been written about Pope and his circle, and although the poems themselves have been masterfully presented in the Twickenham edition.

James Fenton on a major study of that bundle of complexities & moral defender, Alexander Pope



ALEXANDER POPE: A LIFE
By Maynard Mack
Yale University Press, £15.95

People are brought up to believe in Pope as the greatest poet of his generation, although this claim rests on achievements which are of the unoriginal to modern taste. The reputation is, to a certain extent, artificial, or taken on trust. Formers of taste, such as Eliot and Pound, persuaded people to love Donne's Songs and Sonnets, and lured the adventurous reader towards the earlier, rougher translators of Homer and Virgil. I doubt however if much of Pope's poetry found its way into the 20th-century backpack. Maynard Mack remarks during this book that we, by which he means contemporary America, seem to have lost the taste for poetry altogether. I don't think this is true, but I can see how it would seem true to someone who has devoted so much time to the study of Pope.

Professor Mack, who edited Pope's *Essay on Man*, is the perfect choice of biographer. The subject is extremely complicated to unravel, since the publishing practices of the time involved so much skulduggery; since libels and slanders had a way of persisting and proliferating; and (this is merely another way of looking at the same problem) since political intrigue was absolutely a way of life. In the hope of drawing something of a general readership, Professor Mack decided to write an entirely self-explanatory biography. All the key figures are introduced, and all the history

you need is here. Not only that, it is quite possible for the biographer of a writer to forget that the most important part of his story is what happens when his subject sits down and puts pen to paper, or when he picks up a book. There is nothing so frustrating as a biography in which the study doors are always closed. But in this account we get to look at the books Pope read, we are shown some of his marginalia, we go through manuscripts and their corrections, and, most importantly, there is a full critical discussion of all the major works.

So it is a big book. A major book. Pope wasn't only a writer, he was also a gardener, a designer of parks, a shrewd and innovative publisher, an editor, a correspondent, a sociable man, a polemicist, and a political figurehead. There is a great deal to be done, and Professor Mack does it well. His

drawbacks are minor: there is a foible for using overdone tags like "Aye, there's the rub" or "It was the best of times... etc" or a snatch of "Forn Hill", and some of the images made less hectic. There are times when you can hear the professor saying to himself "Now I'm really going to let my hair down. And there are chirpy exclamation marks (!). But then there is the overriding value of the book itself. Pope's achievements as a poet have a markedly antithetical character. On the one hand, the *Essay on Man* had an appeal for all of educated Europe; on the other, the *Dunciad* appears to us, with its complicated prefixes, footnotes and obsession with inconsiderable characters, to be a very elaborate way of saying "Ouch! Pope idealises his friends and creates whole masterpieces around them, but we switch with alarming abruptness from friendships to enemies. That more-in-sorrow-than-in-anger tone of the portrait of Attilius is brilliantly disingenuous. Pope was unforgiving. It is true that he wrote an anonymous prologue for a benefit in aid of his old enemy Dennis, but the prologue itself points out that the man is now decrepit and past it.

One of Pope's failed friendships was with his collaborator, Elijah Fenton. It is true that he wrote a generous epitaph for this engaging old codger, the first poet in the English language to write a poem about a public hair, but one cannot help feeling that Pope was mocking Fenton when he claims that he "from Nature's temple rose fast rose satyrs". Poor old Fenton, Johnson tells us that in his declining years, Fenton spent most of his time in bed. He only "rose" to go to his books. His "immediate distemper" was gout, although Pope said in a letter that he died of indolence. It is nasty to mock a man in an epitaph, especially when the poem in question picks his opening lines from Crashaw.

Public friendships, public enmities - one of the things that surprises Professor Mack is that Pope should ever have published the *Dunciad*, which brought so much hatred upon his head that for a considerable time the poet never went out for a walk without his faithful dog and a gun. But Pope courted enmity just as he courted friendship, and though you could say that he got more than he bargained for (he was spectacularly abused on account of his smallness, his hunched



back and his Catholicism) he was determined to give as good as he got. Among the many famous phrases he gave to the language, that question "Who breaks a butterfly upon a wheel?" is easily answered: I. Alexander Pope, regularly break butterflies upon a wheel.

The occasions for the two distinct versions of the *Dunciad* are worth noting. The first was an attack on Pope's edition of Shakespeare's pioneering work, the second major attempt to set the corpus in order. As

Gusts of love and laughter

FICTION

Isabel Raphael

UNEXPLAINED LAUGHTER

By Alice Thomas Ellis

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FLOATING DOWN TO CAMELOT

By David Benedictus

Macdonald, £8.95

CONFESSIONS OF A FAILED SOUTHERN LADY

By Florence King

Michael Joseph, £9.95

Alice Thomas Ellis's latest novel is, quite simply, brilliant. It will not be to everyone's taste, being dominated by a character who will arouse the same mixture of emotions in readers as she does in the book. But I defy anyone to remain indifferent, or to put down this novel unread. Sir George Sitwell complained that there was always laughter in the next room: Alice Thomas Ellis's *Unexplained Laughter* comes from further away, from the woods beyond the walls of a cottage in Wales in which Lydia, a smart London journalist, has taken refuge after a broken love affair. But it serves to make the same point, that every man's predicament is to be an outsider.

Lydia appears to be the complete insider: witty, glamorous, razor-sharp in her perceptions of other people, she is excellent value at a safe distance from her monstrous egotism. She titillates and teases, but her intelligence sparkles so irresistibly that her victims come back for more; which means more fun for Lydia. Her principal butt is Betty who has forced herself on to Lydia in a mistaken impulse of charity and remains ensnared by the sheer unpredictability of her companion. For Lydia - who normally "plays only with court cards" - Betty's ordinariness is disconcerting. Disinterested kindness is a new experience, not altogether to be relished, especially as Betty seems deaf when Lydia herself needs reassurance, to the disembodied laughter that excludes even her.

Together this ill-assorted pair set out to skirmish socially with the local community. Invaders v the Home Team with a vengeance. Both sides play a crazy game of Tom Tiddler's Ground where the boundaries keep shifting and catcher and caught change place all the time. Every move is observed by Angband, the ultimate outsider, the child without childhood, the speechless misshapen product of generations of valley inbreeding. She knows more than anyone of human nature and its affinity to the nature she sees out on the hills, of foxes and hares, of winds and of shadows, of love and death.

One is not allowed to sit comfortably in Alice Thomas Ellis's world. She enjoys teasing too (how are non-women outsiders to pronounce the name Seun?) and every gust of laughter is counterbalanced by a shiver in recognition of the human condition. The book is most elegantly and economically written, and I cannot think of a writer who catches more accurately the flavour of contemporary conversation.

The Mother-of-Pearl Men is Mark Frankland's first novel, and is set in Saigon where he spent eight years as a journalist. It is better journalism than fiction. Michael Bishop, a young British banker, is drawn into political intrigue by a diplomat who sees his incred-

ible naivete as the most effective weapon against the machinations of various Vietnamese factions. He is counting on Bishop playing pawn and being as stupid as he is innocent; but Bishop is moved by the suffering of the man he is to help, goes beyond his brief and becomes deeply involved.

The plot is slight and not entirely convincing. Like the other two Englishmen, the oily diplomat and the boorish huck, Bishop is drawn in bold outlines, almost a caricature; acute observer as he is, I doubt if he would have been psychologically crippled by his experience as outlined in the prologue. What emerges memorably from this book is a masterly portrait of Vietnam and its people. For anyone who knew Saigon in the '60s that strange and haunting city comes to life again. The reporting is excellent: here are the chill of the Caravelle, the clatter in Givral, the extraordinary discomfort of those antediluvian taxis, and the nasal French, and the casual, automatic gesture of pouring out the melted ice before pouring in the drink, which tells you all you need to know about heat and thirst. But these are mere nostalgic details. Clear on these pages is the terrible restlessness, the seductive and deceptive charm of the Vietnamese, so fragile and romantic to look at, so ruthless in pursuing their ends. A host of minor characters are subtly sketched, recalling a vitality that surely still survives in Saigon today.

Perhaps it is dangerous for an Oxonian to stray into Cambridge territory. Perhaps no-one should look for humour in murder, castration and rape, though, come to think of it, Tom Sharpe manages something like that on his home territory. But David Benedictus's self-conscious excursion into black comedy in *Floating Down to Camelot* is dismally in the Cam. Much more fun is Florence King's *Confessions of a Failed Southern Lady* which may be autobiography but for sheer improbability beats most of this week's fiction.

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A one man show of the whole world

Robert Nye

THE MACMILLAN GUIDE TO MODERN WORLD LITERATURE
By Martin Seymour-Smith
Macmillan, £40

What this means, at worst, is that the book is bound to give offence at some point, to everyone who reads it, because the reader will have his own opinions about the writers under discussion and where Seymour-Smith's view does not happen to coincide with your own the result can be irritating in the extreme, on account of the magisterial tone he allows himself in attack. It is one thing,

for instance, to insist that the early Eliot of *Prufrock* and *The Waste Land* is preferable to the decorative and Parnassian Eliot of *Four Quartets*. It is quite another to try to write off a man of genius as though you were passing judgement in a divorce court. "Eliot is a minor poet; he cannot write about love; he lacks real sympathy, or at least, he is frigid." At such moments, Seymour-Smith sounds rather like Ben Jonson giving Drummond of Hawthornden the lowdown on his contemporaries, and I want to throttle him for the confidence with which he belittles work I love.

But this, no doubt, is the price that has to be paid for the book's power - it is one impassioned outpouring, overwhelming in its informed sincerity, inspiring in its rawness and one's old original sense of the high import of literature. And when Seymour-Smith sensitively praises writers as different as Kafka, Crane, Cavafy, Ford, Graves, Vallejo, Rilke, Lorca, Joyce, Lowry, Faulkner, Sisson, Grass, Gurney, Powell, or Audubert, he always finds something new and interesting to say, making a sort of agonistic conspiracy of passion for excellence, so that the reader is reminded of the essential subversiveness of the imagination, and drawn into a real appreciation of "the meaning of the dream in terms of its own original, unknown, mysterious, day-haunting images". Day-haunting images is a fine definition of the blend of inspiration and control which Seymour-Smith (and I think correctly) appears to value above all else. When he finds evidence of it, however fleetingly, in anyone's work, he can be brilliant, and generous in expressing his delight. And his most throwaway remarks provide excellent food for thought. "Beckett's translations of his own books into English are so different from their originals as to present us with two versions," and of Borges, "The notion of the author as God can have very distressing consequences if it is carried too far".

The only general weakness I can discern is that Seymour-Smith has little heart or appetite for the pointlessly playful in literature, that is to say work where the absence of deep meaning is in some serious way celebrated by verbal or stylistic games. I think he tends to undervalue, or misunderstand such wits and wags as Ronald Firbank, Raymond Roussel, Robert Pinget, John Ashbery, and Richard Brautigan.

I do not want to end on a negative note, so having begun by saying that books like this are generally written by committees I should conclude by saying that books like this are not generally written at all. What we have here is some sort of critical classic. Nor can I believe that this is the end of it, because Seymour-Smith is engaged in what amounts to a passionate dialogue with his readers, and that again is what makes this an extraordinary book by any standards.

Nifty images of muscle-men

John Russell Taylor

WOMEN'S IMAGES OF MEN
Edited by Sarah Kent and Jacqueline Morrean
Writers and Readers, £6.95

THE MALE NUDE
A MODERN VIEW
Edited and introduced by Edward Lucie-Smith
Phaidon, £20

But the fact remains, even if that were so, that our own day offers its puzzlements. Men are not used to being sexual objects, and even if they have no objections more men want to be courted and wooed and apologized to the next morning than feminists ever imagine. It is still far from clear what is the correct stance to adopt psychologically or even physically, as is uncomfortably evident from a profusion of *Playgirl* - type photographs showing muscle-men in kind of coyly provocative baby-doll poses which have been a cynch for generations in the equivalent girls' magazines.

Understandable that Ms Kent does not care for the results, but she is not misconstruing slightly when she observes that women can often derive more erotic pleasure from "homoeotic" images out of the male dominated art of the past? Surely what she and others, male as well as female, find pleasing and stimulating in the nude products of this class is their complete unconsciousness of the erotic element. Heterosexual men

(more often than not) were drawing heterosexual men for a precise, quasi-scientific purpose, and men rather than women just because that meant that all suspicion of sexual nastiness was thereby kept at a distance. The actual contents of the exhibition at the ICA on which the book *Women's Images of Men* is based were admirably catholic in their choice, ranging from savagely hostile images of males being flayed or sliced up or at the very least castrated to really warm, affectionate erotically turned-on pictures of the male as friend and lover. The contents of *The Male Nude* exhibition, organized by Francois de Louville with some fleeing assistance from a committee which included (I must obviously avow an interest) myself, was less clearly focused, concerning itself entirely with what was viewed rather than the nature and attitude of the viewer. Some of it was undoubtedly women's images of men (Elizabeth Frink, Sandra Fisher, Maggi Hambling, Sarah Lloyd and others figure prominently and creditably).

One thing is clear, from both books, the one lavishly produced with lots of excellent colour, the other becomingly monochrome and stripped for action: Brangwyn was probably just about the last artist who could draw the male nude with total relish and complete innocence of any possible sexual overtones. Since then, if we are going to do it at all, a new visual rhetoric is needed, and we are far from finding it yet, whether we mean to attack or to worship.

Pheromones & odour colognes

Anthony Clare

LOVING AND LOATHING
By David Lewis
Constable, £7.95

whether they will remain strangers or develop warm friendships. As a bar's closing time gets closer, people without partners start to see members of the opposite sex as increasingly attractive. Men, presented with seemingly identical pictures of a girl's face will pick out as the most attractive the one in which her pupils are most widely dilated. Whether any or all of these are valid claims is neither here nor there. Their function is to arrest the attention and leave the reader hungry for more.

There are, it is true, various genuflections to science in the shape of surveys earnestly analysed, questionnaires to be completed by readers, a remarkably detailed and practical discussion of personal construct theory, and an appendix in which you can turn your hand to cracking your own personal enigmas by exploring the qualities you find most attractive and repulsive in your friends. There is much pretentious

"The enigma of personal attraction" is the subtitle of this book; and enigma it defiantly remains despite the fact that the author, a psychologist, has apparently spent five years examining and evaluating the theories and experiments designed by scientists to crack it. It has to be said, however, that David Lewis's failure is unlikely to hurt the popularity of his book one whit. It is those very questions in life which are most difficult to answer which generate the most interest and a seemingly insatiable thirst for books such as this.

For it is a book that fits very much into a formula. There is the mandatory quick tour through the main high spots of contemporary research which in this case include the study of pheromones, those sexual odours which apparently turn demure prudes into libidinous lechers; the significance of facial appearance; the extraordinary ubiquity of jealousy; and that long-running issue, whether mothers are born or made. But appropriately placed at strategic points in the text are a series of striking generalizations designed to ensure that the concentration does not falter. Within four minutes of their first meeting, people will decide



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THE TIMES DIARY

I spy the tea lady

The man who must feel decidedly left out of the furor over Brigadier Ronnie Stenham, who reportedly liaises with M15 on BBC appointments, is the original occupant of the now famous Room 105, Hugh Florde-Searight. A close friend of his tells me it was Florde-Searight who initiated the techniques now employed by Stenham. "He used to have a safe behind an oil painting, a potted plant carefully placed in front of the safe, and a spy hole in the door. Unlike Stenham, however, he used the spy hole to see when the BBC tea trolley was coming round," Florde-Searight, who, I am told, has now retired to Norfolk, "discovered God" in his last days at the Beeb and frequently retreated to a monastery. He claimed to have been an RAF fighter ace and to own a ranch in Chile. Far too bizarre, one might think, for a BBC/M15 employee.

Close-knit

The indefatigable Lord Olivier (aged 78) tells me he has just been signed up for Granada's next blockbuster TV dramatization, *Los Empires*, by J. B. Priestley. He will play Harry Burrard, a failed comedian not entirely dissimilar to Archie Rice, the declining comic he played in John Osborne's *The Entertainer*. Olivier has worked more for Granada (*Brideshead Revisited*, *The Ebony Tower* et al) than for any other TV company. I suspect there could be an element of family loyalty: Granada's MD is David Plowright, his brother-in-law.

Pact off

Liberal leader David Steel must be reflecting how things have changed since the days of Len Murray. Steel is scheduled to speak at a fringe meeting of the TUC conference in early September but he has not been officially invited to the conference itself. It isn't for want of trying. My spies tell me Steel has written to the TUC general secretary, Norman Willis, three times in the last three months, each time dropping him that he would like a pass. No invitation has been forthcoming. Unless Willis relents, Steel will suffer the ignominy of turning up in Blackpool, addressing the fringe delegates in the unassuming Lobster Pot Restaurant... and returning home.

Making amends

South African commandos did more than outrage international opinion when they attacked African National Congress hide-outs in Gaborone, the capital of neighbouring Botswana, in June. They allegedly left without paying their hotel bills. According to the Gaborone newspaper *The Reporter*, six South Africans booked into two hotels in the city saying they were tourists. The registration plates of the four minibuses in which they arrived have now been traced to the South African Defence Department. Yesterday a defence spokesman in Pretoria said an investigation was under way. "Four personnel were involved, the bills will be paid."



"So comrades, the Iron Lady is topping up her anti-freeze"

Unbeaten

With a death of game birds, the moors overrun by Americans and Japanese, the foul weather and animal rights activists, the royal gunmakers, Holland & Holland, display masterly pragmatism in bringing out a substitute for the real thing: a video film entitled *Game Shooting*. It takes the viewer on an hour of rough shoots, freezing grouse drives and out-of-season bagging in Yorkshire. Holland & Holland know of at least one frustrated marksman - a brigadier - who watches it comfortably from his armchair as he cradles a 12-bore.

Indenture

Our tenth bottle of champagne in the quest for anecdotes about the famous in their early days goes to Douglas Whybrow of Marazion in Cornwall: "One of Freddie Laker's early enterprises was the air-car ferry from Southend. On one stormy day Freddie was at the airport comforting passengers after their short but rough flight across the Channel. As one group of people stepped from the aircraft, Freddie spotted a man clutching an air-sickness bag. Rushing over, Freddie exclaimed 'You don't have to do that, give it to me, I'll dispose of it!' The man glared at Freddie, and in a booming but gummy Northern accent, replied 'Nay the don't lad, maa teeth's in there'."

PHS

Be your own boss, help us all

by Graham Mather

While unemployment remains at record levels, *The Times* this week found the desk of Derek Attewell, the Manpower Services Commission's Croydon manager, piled high with applications from people wanting to go self-employed through the government's Enterprise Allowance scheme.

Increasingly it is clear that self-employment could provide many of the answers to Britain's unemployment problem. Not only does it cut the unemployment totals and increase the number of those in work, but it is also growing naturally: now up to 10 per cent of the workforce, the highest rate since 1921. One third of all managers are now self-employed.

Imaginatively promoted, self-employment could help to solve the problems of benefit abuse and the black economy. It goes with the grain of new patterns of work and employers' needs. What is more, every worker who goes self-employed lifts a major burden of employment legislation from his employer's back.

Yet the Inland Revenue and DHSS put major obstacles in the path of anyone who wishes to be self-employed. Some Revenue staff are equipped with a 57-point checklist of detailed interrogation before the hapless applicant can consider himself self-employed. Worse still, DHSS inspectors administering the national insurance system are equipped with different checklists to establish who is self-employed for national insurance purposes. They rely upon the remarkable definition that a self-employed person is "a person who is gainfully employed in Great Britain

other than in employed earners' employment (whether or not he is also employed in such employment)". This has been aptly described as a "negative and rather confusing formulation".

The problems for those who want to use a self-employed workforce are even greater. If it turns out that a self-employed worker should properly have been called an employee, an employer can become liable for tens of thousands of pounds of back-taxes and national insurance contributions over the previous six years, with little prospect of ever recovering the money.

When there ought to be incentives to self-employment there are barriers and potential penalties. Yet some comparatively simple reforms could make a dramatic difference.

As working patterns change, many who have previously thought themselves permanent employees of one employer are realizing that there are many benefits in a less rigid relationship. Release and re-engagement schemes now allow trained staff to work three or four days a week for their former employers and develop other clients in the balance of their time. Xerox has pioneered the concept of "networking" in which computer staff can work from home in this way.

When a worker becomes self-employed his employer is free from problems and anxieties over employment protection laws, wages councils, employers' national insurance contributions and statutory sick pay record keeping. Problems with the complex PAYE scheme,

maternity pay and detailed holiday provisions can be dramatically reduced. Becoming self-employed cuts all these burdens on business, just as effectively as if they had been abolished by legislation - but without the political battle.

The benefit is mutual. Together with greater flexibility and freedom, workers who become self-employed receive some marginal tax advantages from Schedule D status. Yet the irony is that businesses and self-employed workers cannot choose themselves, that this is how they wish to conduct their relationship.

The Inland Revenue checklist reflects the fact that complex case law has been built up by the courts to determine whether a contract is of employment or self-employment, regardless of the wishes of those concerned.

Even if the parties think they are agreeing a self-employed relationship, the courts may apply any of a dozen tests to convert it into a contract of employment, attaching to it the entire cargo of legal burdens. Until recently, the Inland Revenue actively promoted this process, with reclassification drives against market researchers, journalists and even Tupperware ladies.

There should be freedom to choose. It would be a simple matter to modify the law, sweep away the old cases, and allow people to decide to work on a self-employed basis for one, two or several customers. It should be for the Inland Revenue to prove the opposite in the rare cases of clear abuse.

The potential for self-employment as a way out of the 'dole' queue, however, is still greater. Reports of a test exercise among benefit claimants in the Thames Valley suggest that the presence of extra DHSS inspectors cut the jobless totals by a third as those at work in the black economy ceased to register.

More inspectors cannot be the long-term answer. The problem is that those on the dole engaged in part-time economic activity have no great incentive to go legal. But the phenomenal success of the Enterprise Allowance scheme, which by April 1986 will have put 140,000 people on the way to self-employment by paying them £40 a week for 12 months, points the way. Those people would otherwise have pushed up the unemployment totals, and constituted a greater burden on social benefit funds.

If a tax-free self-employed allowance was introduced for all those who move from unemployment into self-employment, with no tax payable on the first £3,000 of income from self-employment, the result could be a significant inroad into both unemployment and welfare benefit fraud. Each claimant who engages in surreptitious part-time work is a potential small business, an addition to those in work and an eventual employer. Adjust the incentives and, as the Enterprise Allowance has shown, the response would be immediate. The results could begin to pay off for Mrs Thatcher and her ministers in good time for the next election.

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The author is head of the policy unit at the Institute of Directors.

Paul Johnson finds a link between holocaust, abortion and embryology



Steel's Act led eventually to abortion on demand



Warnock: opponents dismissed as 'terrifying fanatics'



Bishop Jenkins: a warning on 'moral absolutism'

Withdraw this licence to kill

The 20th century has been unique in its destruction of human life. Since 1900 more people have been violently done to death by state action than in the whole of history before that date. The Second World War killed 50 million even before nuclear weapons were used. Since 1945 conventional wars have disposed of 35 million more. The scale of civil slaughter by the state has been almost as prodigious. Hitler's death factories swallowed up six million defenceless souls. Stalin's killer system, of which the Gulag was only one element, engulfed 20 million, who were shot, beaten, starved or frozen to death.

Mao Tse-tung carried out human culling on a similar scale. The practice of state holocausts has spread to many smaller nations. Witness poor Uganda: 350,000 murdered by Amin, as many - perhaps more - by his successor. A million have died in the war between Iraq and Iran. Life is cheap in 1985.

We in the West, living under legal and parliamentary traditions, believe we are immune to this 20th century plague. It is not the benevolent state, with its caring, compassionate agencies, the guardian of life in a way it has never been before in all history.

This is a dangerous illusion. We too are catching the killing plague. It may exhibit different symptoms among us, but we are beginning to subscribe to its essential precondition - the acceptance of moral relativism as state doctrine. Western civilization has never been as strong as we like to think it. But such strength as it does possess springs essentially from the core of moral absolutism which it derives from its Judeo-Christian tradition.

Moral absolutism is the assumption that there are certain laws governing the conduct of individuals and societies which are permanent and universal, not man-made but God-given, and the necessary foundation of any human system of law. By accepting moral absolutes we concede the limitations of our human wisdom. We admit that no human society can be wholly sovereign and that all our legal notions must be based on natural law. We can interpret natural law; we cannot change its fundamentals.

In Britain this is implicitly accepted when Parliament begins each day with prayers, genuflecting to a higher law. The function of Parliament, indeed, might be defined as making the necessary adjustments between the system of fundamental law and the changing needs of society. Its primary role is therefore as a revising body. It is a law-making body only in a secondary sense. It cannot make marriage a crime, murder a duty or false hood meritorious.

The US constitution and Congress are based upon exactly the same assumption. The Declaration of Independence, in its first paragraph, invoking "the laws of nature and of nature's God". Both the great Anglo-Saxon democracies are, at any rate, morally absolutist in this profound constitutional sense.

The devaluation of life in the 20th century reflects the retreat from moral absolutism and the slide into the abyss where law and morality are wholly man-made in accordance with what he perceives to be his needs. Until 1914 most of the great powers subscribed to some system of moral absolutes, however shaky.

and imposed it on their overseas territories as well. That consensus went for good in the Great War. Leninism came first, replacing the Judeo-Christian framework with what he called "the revolutionary conscience", a euphemism for the unrestrained will of the ruling group. Then came Hitler with his "higher law of the party", and in due course Mao with his Little Red Book. The Gulag, Auschwitz, the millions slain in the Cultural Revolution - all were the result of moral relativism.

The major mass murderers have been followed by scores of minor ones, the phoenix flock of evil emerging from the dying embers of empire. Most of them have affixed a bloody thumb-print to some relativistic code of totalitarian morals, revolving round the central proposition of the 20th century: the state shall kill when it wishes. As absolute morality falls, the mountains of corpses rise ever higher.

We are not yet among the summits of death but we are moving fast through the foothills. It is now fashionable among the progressive establishment to advance the arguments of moral relativism as justification for extinguishing life. Lady Warnock, at present the height of intellectual fashion in Whitehall, uses them to defend the state-supervised abortion experiment upon and extinction of human embryos. She is enthusiastically supported by the Archbishop of York, who warns of "the dangers of moral absolutism" and thinks that differences between "right and wrong, good and evil" are "largely a question of degree".

It is the essence of moral relativism to devalue life, to counterfeit the moral currency of creation. Giving and taking life is a divine prerogative. Absolute or nature law revolves round this principle and teaches that the taking of life can be delegated to human societies (under God) only in the gravest circumstances, to defend the principle of life itself. Consider how the erosion of moral relativism has undermined this principle in three areas: murder, abortion and embryonic destruction.

Societies under natural law regard murder as a crime of unique atrocity. Paradoxically, this public abhorrence has always been expressed by capital punishment. This is an awesome, even horrifying, institution, the supreme exercise of state power, the point at which it comes closest to usurping divine authority. It can be justified only on the grounds that, by its intrinsic but wholesome terror, it makes manifest the magnitude of the crime it penalizes.

By removing the judicial right of society to kill we have removed the singularity of murder and so devalued life. This is a point the anti-hangers, like Roy Jenkins and Lord Gardiner, could not or would not see. But in consequence of their

victory, murder is now a crime like many others: punished like many others, it may indeed be lightly punished. When capital punishment was abolished, the public was repeatedly assured by the reformers that its substitute, life imprisonment, would indeed mean imprisonment for life. This guarantee has proved worthless. Few killers now serve more than seven years. Many serve much less because of the growing tendency to downgrade acts of homicide from murder to manslaughter.

It is not unusual for a man who has killed his wife, or a woman her husband, to receive a suspended sentence and leave the court free, the judge considering the time spent in custody awaiting trial to be adequate punishment. The moral character and personal behaviour of the victim is taken into consideration, both in deciding the charge and calculating the punishment.

The most fruitful line of defence is thus to portray the dead person as a monster, so that the victim undergoes a second assassination, of character, while the state as prosecutor stays silent. The law and the courts are thus transforming our whole attitude to killing and so undermining our veneration for life.

The legalization of abortion is in some respects more serious because of the enormous number of creatures now killed in the womb and the "multiplicity" of people involved. The evil of the Hitlerian holocaust was immensely magnified by the fact that many thousands were needed to man the gruesome production lines, produce the fatal chemicals, operate the trains which fed the slaughter, and take away the soap, the fertilizer and the other industrial by-products of mass murder. All knew what they were doing - how could they not know? But some at least might claim that they worked in a climate of fear and in the absence of moral debate and advice. No such extenuation of guilt is open to those who serve in our abortion clinics or our public hospitals which run abortion wards little better than slaughterhouses.

They know that the morality of abortion is under active debate, and that, since it was made legal, the whole thrust of medical research has been in the direction of emphasizing the humanity and even the personality of the fetus, whose sex and physical characteristics can now be ascertained long before birth. Meanwhile, as a result of the David Steel Act the practice of abortion has been moving in quite the opposite direction, killing closer and closer to birth, living creatures who in all essentials are human beings, who can undoubtedly feel pain and even express their anguish.

Here again, the glib assurances given by reformers when the principle protecting the life of the

unborn was first breached have proved worthless. For purely social reasons, perfectly healthy women are now aborted of normal fetuses 38 weeks old and virtually capable of independent life. All the qualifications and safeguards written into the legislation have been disregarded in practice.

We have abortion on demand, often of living, breathing, crying creatures, who are left to die or strangled before being hurried shamefully to the incinerator. Some hospital nurses refuse to participate in these acts and have foregone promotion in consequence. All honour to them. The rest know exactly what they are doing, just as the men who stoked Hitler's furnaces knew.

However, if the moral relativism which increasingly governs our official attitudes towards murder and abortion-infanticide is still concealed by a shroud of hypocrisy, it has come into the open on the issue of embryology. In its efforts to deal with this new threat to the sanctity of life, our public system has not so far covered itself with honour. The House of Commons has voted overwhelmingly against the practice but has been prevented from making it illegal by a procedural filibuster devised by its leading hooligan, Dennis Skinner. Meanwhile, an official committee has produced a report whose chief begetter declares herself a relativist, accepts the end as justifying the means and says we must balance the needs of research against the sanctity of life. So far as I can follow her reasoning, both are "principles" or "values". Well, I dare say Dr Monagle would have gone along with that, as also with her view that research into human embryos should continue "subject to strict control and monitoring". Who would have predicted the monster vindicated just as he was pronounced officially dead?

Lady Warnock and her allies in high places think that those of us who stick up for absolute values, and seek to protect life against the encroachment of ruthless utilitarians, are dangerous. She finds us guilty of "dogmatism, intolerance and fanaticism"; we are not merely "objectionable" but "terrifying". The abuse and threats raised on Mrs Victoria Gillick and her family, for her crime of upholding the right of parents to protect the moral welfare of their children, have prepared us for this kind of vilification. Those who reject absolute morality are unlikely to be scrupulous in debate.

Murder and infanticide are important enough issues in themselves. But the creation of life for laboratory destruction opens up a new chamber of horrors. I do not believe assurances that the permit to experiment will expire after 14 days. The guarantee will prove as worthless as those we received on life imprisonment and abortion.

We are approaching the point in Britain when the world of natural law and the world of social engineering are coming into direct conflict. The relativist and social engineers have carried the day in many countries. But they have not yet finally triumphed here. These issues should become paramount at the next election, with every candidate obliged to declare exactly where he or she stands on them.

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Matthew Parris

After the cruel T, a gentle Jeff

There is a method of interrogation commonly known as "Mutt and Jeff" or "the hard man and the soft man". The trick is to extract by kindness what cannot be extracted by cruelty. But cruelty is an integral part of the technique.

The "hard man" is sent into the prisoner's cell. He behaves brutally, threatening and often actually assaulting his charge. This continues until the prisoner's nerve is broken and hope is gone. At that point the "soft man" rushes in, stays his violent colleague's hand and orders him out.

He draws up a chair, and apologizes to the prisoner, explaining that this has happened before - and cannot be guaranteed not to happen again: the fellow has an uncontrollable temper. But, he promises, he will do his best to protect the prisoner from any recurrence... a cigarette, perhaps? A glass of brandy to steady the nerves? It would help if the prisoner could be just a little more cooperative... The prisoner's confidence has been won. The soft man is his protector, his friend. Partly out of gratitude, partly through fear that the hard man could be sent back, the prisoner cooperates.

Two things must be stressed. First, the soft man can succeed only in the shadow, as it were, of his hard companion. It is the contrast with the hard man's cruelty which establishes the soft man's "kindness". Neither would get far alone.

Second, the technique need not be consciously contrived, though it often is. It will work wherever calm follows a storm. You can see it at work everywhere - in trade union negotiations, in the "market softening" by which the Post Office prepares us for a 5 per cent rise in postal charges by allowing rumours of a 30 per cent increase.

One of the longest-running negotiations has been going on for about 30 years. It is between the British public and their government, and relates to the extent to which the former may have their cake and eat it. The negotiations have been hampered, on the government side, by a chronic shortage of political candidates for the role of hard men.

Nor is that surprising. Preparing the way for Jeff is a beastly role. Lunatic, unsung, feared, disliked, the hard man must take on his shoulders the odium of comparison with the gentler alternative.

Poor Mrs Thatcher. For the hard man to turn out to be a woman is an odd reflection on us men. She is certainly the most elegant Mutt ever to press a burning cigarette into a prisoner's forearm.

I am tramping my constituency this summer on a self-imposed "non-election campaign". People talk more naturally when one hasn't called for anything so vulgar as their vote. My constituents keep telling me the same thing. "Oh yes, we agree with what she's trying to do, but she's too inflexible/extreme/authoritarian/harsh/un caring/pushy... she should compromise a bit... need for consensus... slow down..."

moreover... Miles Kington

Bringing the banjo back on the beat

Little did the inventors of jazz realize, when they got things going in New Orleans at the end of the last century, that they would be indirectly responsible 100 years later for lorry loads of middle-aged men driving round Edinburgh playing endless versions of Royal Garden Blues. This was in last Sunday's parade to mark the beginning of the Edinburgh Jazz Festival, and I don't think I have ever seen so many banjos in one place before. The Edinburgh Jazz Festival is unashamedly traditional, which means that there are as many tubas as double basses around and that most of the bands involved could, at a pinch, play while marching. This is harder for modern jazz groups, who prefer to be plugged into the mains.

But it's the banjo which makes the difference. The untamed clanking quality of the instrument cuts through the ensemble like a jagged bed of hard rock in a landscape. For some reason most banjo players tend to be heavily-bearded men with an Old Testament look, as if the home-spun truths uttered on their instrument are a reproach to the frivolous improvising going on around them. Played properly, the banjo makes the music lift and bounce; just as often it drags it down like a hole in a parachute, but no banjo player looks as if it gives him any pleasure either way.

One of the trends I detect at the festival this year is that the banjo may be coming back generally. We make occasional use of one of our group, Instant Sunshine, though Peter Christie, the man guilty, tells me it is a banjo-ukelele, the instrument that made George Formby's name hated and feared throughout the 1930s. But what alerted me to this trend was something far more startling which I saw outside the Fringe Club on Monday night.

Parked 100 yards away there is a collapsible-looking, double-decker bus which does indeed collapse into an open-air theatre, and when I passed by at 10.30 pm it was occupied by a group of six blond, bloated dressed in white, doing a manically funny show. Some were in shorts, some in long trousers, like a mad mixed tennis and cricket team, but the show was based firmly on punk music and skilful comic routines. And along with the electric bass, guitar and drums there were

My typical constituent's position is sharply critical of Mrs Thatcher, yet on closer examination, remarkably derivative of it. They want the same as her, but not quite so much, so fast, so soon, or so unremittently.

Derivative in two ways: first, she has pioneered the direction, or at least popularized it. Secondly, their preference is moderate only by comparison with the pace she is trying to force.

People cannot see this at all. They seem to think that men like David Steel and Francis Pym are "moderate" in some objective, timeless way, in a vacuum. The thought that by pitching her tent on a far perimeter Mrs Thatcher has enabled men like Steel or Pym to move their own tents forward, yet still be considered cautious, seems not to have occurred to them.

Jeff, my constituents imply, would try to keep taxes down, but not (like cruel Mrs T) to the extent of "savagely" cutting services. They do not see that "gentle" restraint is only "gentle" relative to something else: Mrs Thatcher.

Jeff, they inform me, would be "firm" with the unions, but not "provocative". They do not see that Jim Pridmore's approach was cautious only by comparison with rumours about what Mrs Thatcher was using.

Jeff, they tell me, would offer the teachers "more". They fail to see that it was an offer of 4 per cent to make 8 per cent sound like "more".

So it is the soft man for whom, after six years of bruising battle, people hanker. And until he comes, Mrs Thatcher wades on, hatching in hand, doing a great many people's dirty work, preparing the way for successors who will be called kinder and more amenable.

They will be the binders of wounds, the reconcilers of the nation - and I do not mean to mock them. Important reforms remain untackled and may be ventured upon only by a government which commands popular affection.

Nor will there be any shortage of contenders for the post. The British establishment is packed with natural Jeffs. They are dining all over London as I write. They are two-pennies and they will come back into their own not long from now.

Not like Mrs Thatcher. She is nobody's choice for an evening at the club, or pub. Edgy, earnest, blinkered and moralizing - what a bore!

Jeff will eventually usher her out, pull up a chair with us, proffer the brandy and cigarettes, and we shall all breathe sighs of relief and say how we never really liked her all along, but hadn't thought it wise to say so.

With Jeff we shall achieve much - some of which was not possible before. To Jeff will go our gratitude. To Mutt should go the credit. She will not complain that she does not get it.

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The author is a Conservative MP for West Derbyshire.

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THE TIMES
ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 22 1985

On August 21 the Soviet news agency Tass announced from Moscow that "... party and government leaders of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic have asked the Soviet Union ... to render the fraternal Czechoslovak people urgent assistance, including assistance with armed forces ... have entered into a collusion with foreign forces hostile to socialism."

Czechoslovakia
invaded

From Clive Farnsworth, Prague, Aug 21

Yankees with flaming flags and newspapers set fire to Russian tanks encircling the Prague Radio building here today. Others threw wooden crates, rubbish bins and mattresses at the occupying forces who had moved swiftly into the city at dawn.

Snipers kept up fire much of the day. Scores of people were injured and several killed when the Russians answered back and when munitions landed exploded.

I saw four young Czechs killed, one with his head blown off minutes after a machine gun from a Russian tank opened up on their vehicle.

People wept in the streets, screaming defiance at the tanks. One tank was left a flaming wreck and two retreated in flames near the Prague Radio building in Vinohradska Street, just behind the National Museum in central Prague.

It was on the museum and the radio building that the main resistance was centred. Ambulance men brought out on stretchers three young men and a woman who had been wounded in the museum.

The radio station went off the air at 11am, but broadcasting was resumed from a secret studio later in the day and was still active at 3.30pm.

The battle for the radio station began before dawn, when students erected barricades in the streets and buses and trolleys were brought up to strengthen the defences against the tanks. Paving stones were dug up and later used as missiles.

It was mid-morning before the tanks were able to penetrate the barricades, smashing over the obstructing vehicles and leaving them in flames.

To shouts of "Russians, go home" from thousands in the streets, scores of tanks and troop carriers encircled the building, the tanks shifting their turret guns aimlessly.

One youth stuck the pole of his Czechoslovak flag into the mouth of the cannon of one tank which already had swastikas scratched on it. There were screams of "dirty fascists" from the crowd.

The crew of one tank on fire managed to dodge the missiles and get out. With guns at the ready they stood in defence of their crippled vehicle and tried to douse the flames.

One tank was left in flames in Balbin Street, which comes into Vinohradska Street by the radio building, and two flaming Russian main battle tanks on Vinohradska Street were also abandoned.

From 1.30 to 2.30 a series of explosions from these vehicles shocked the area. Many in the crowd were injured from concussion and flying fragments. One youth with his intestines visible was lifted into an ambulance barely alive.

The main detachment of Russian tanks had pulled west of Vinohradska Street by this time and could not be seen, but eye witnesses near them said that several tanks fired their cannon at the abandoned ammunition lorries and adjacent buildings.

"The whole country is against this" one man said adding: "Communism is dead in Czechoslovakia". An older man said: "We need American soldiers." ... New York Times News Service.

Letter from a Queen

From Mr Robert Willis

Sir, It may be of interest to record that the enormous letter of August 7, 1870 from Queen Caroline to King George IV, from which you published extracts in your fascinating series, "On This Day", on August 14, was written by William Cobbett.

The letter was included in a collection of Cobbett's political writings which his sons John and James published after his death. It was accompanied by a footnote by John which included the following:

It never has been known generally that this letter was written by Mr Cobbett, though that was suspected by many, at the time that it was published ... It was written by my father in the night of the 6th of August ...

The Queen, as my father understood ... was so delighted with it, that she determined to send it to the King at Windsor immediately, and, fearing that her husband might, if they arrived before it was gone, advise her to the contrary, she signed the paper just as it was then written, and sent it off.

It was returned, I believe because some point of etiquette in the manner of sending it, was omitted. On the 14th it was published in the Times newspaper, and thence it went into every newspaper in the kingdom ...

The letter was so great a favourite with the Queen that, when she had her portrait painted for the City of London, she desired Mr Constable, the artist, to represent her with this document in her hand ...

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WILLIS,
Bunbury, Lower Shiplake,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Little-known phrases

From Mrs Cynthia Henning

Sir, Browsing through my bookshelves my son's attention was drawn to the Zulu Vocabulary and Phrase Book for Use of Immigrants and Settlers in the Province of Natal and Zululand in which he found this splendid phrase: "Some boys think that they ought to have more money because they have been a certain time at work, although they are just as awkward and stupid as when they first came after all the teaching they have had".

Yours faithfully,
CYNTHIA HENNING,
Sunny-side, Elic, Fife.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case for vetting
BBC staff

From Mr George M. Toplas

Sir, I could not disagree more with you on your editorial today about security vetting for BBC staff.

As one who has been in both of them, I know for a fact that the Government Code and Cipher School/Government Communications Headquarters and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office frequently need to discuss highly sensitive matters.

Sections of the BBC. It is therefore absolutely essential that this staff is duly vetted in the BBC, as it is automatically in the other organizations.

Furthermore, one of the functions of MIB is to try to eliminate subversion, which in the case of the BBC, can be expressed as the slanting of news and information in favour of an enemy. I can give you at least one case of this, so that it would appear that security clearances should be intensified rather than abolished.

The BBC is one of the KGB's main targets for infiltration. I am surprised that you should advocate giving these people a free run-in.

Yours sincerely,
G. TOPLAS,
12 Westmore Avenue,
Sawston,
Cambridgeshire,
August 20.

Pressing needs of youth employment

From the Director of the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services

Sir, Action is needed in the very near future if the Government is to avoid giving a poor signal that it is not concerned about the personal and social development of young people through the Youth Service.

In 1979 Trevor Skeet, Conservative MP for Bedford, moved a private member's Bill on the Youth Service in the House of Commons. This was defeated by the Government at third reading in 1980, but a ministerial commitment led to the creation of the Review Group on the Youth Service in January 1981.

The review group's report was published in October, 1982, and Sir Keith Joseph sought responses to it by March, 1983. After an interim statement, it took until July, 1984, for a full ministerial response to the report to be made in the Commons. The Secretary of State then gave an undertaking to accept one of the recommendations of the review group and establish an Advisory Council on the Youth Service. Fourteen months later there is still no council and MPs are now on holiday.

Since 1979 many issues have

conspired to increase public pressure on young people and on those who work with them. The employed 16-year-old has become an endangered species. Family break-up has increased. Violence has broken out in inner cities and on football terraces. In some areas drug abuse is endemic. Politicians offer platitudes and hopes for tomorrow, while cajoling parents and teachers to take the responsibility today.

The chief purpose of the Youth Service is to assist the development of young people so that they may best achieve adulthood through a programme of personal and social education.

It touches the lives of millions of young people, and the proposed national advisory council is a vital requirement if it is to maintain the quality and quantity of its provision. Its creation cannot wait for Parliament to reconvene.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS CATTHERMOLE,
Director,
National Council for Voluntary Youth Services,
Wellington House,
29 Albion Street,
Leicester,
August 30.

Board and lodging

From Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead (Labour)

Sir, Your report (August 14) the Prime Minister's response to the Leader of the Opposition's plea that the current social security system of board and lodging payments should be scrapped. The Prime Minister is right to promise firm action to stamp out the exploitation and abuse associated with some of these payments to young people. She is also right to draw attention to the massive rise in expenditure, from £30 million in 1979 to £380 million this year, but Mrs Thatcher will be well advised to look carefully at why this explosion has occurred before the new scheme is introduced in the autumn.

This rise in social security expenditure cannot be accounted for only in the rise in the numbers of young people claiming - up from 23,000 to an estimated 85,000 in the last three years. One reason for the sevenfold increase in the value of these payments since 1979 has been due to the very policy instigated by the Government. The maximum limits for board and lodging payments have all too often and all too quickly become the minimum payments for most claimants.

The Government's policy was also wrongly directed in that it attempted to prevent abuse by penalising claimants (by limiting their allowance to two, four, or a maximum of eight weeks) instead of directly preventing the abuse by some landlords who have made a small fortune out of these social security payments.

There is all-party support for preventing this rip-off of public funds, and the Government would be well advised to use the time between now and the re-assembly of Parliament to work out an effective scheme. Such a policy will need to lay down minimum standards for board and lodging, and to ensure that these standards are met there will be the need to establish a small inspectors.

While such an approach will entail an increase in the number of people employed by the DHSS, it does nevertheless hold out the prospect of significantly decreasing the total amount of money paid out in board and lodging allowances and, at the same time, offering an improved service to young claimants.

What other policy initiative offers the Government the opportunity of increasing the number of jobs, significant savings in public expenditure as well as improving a service to customers?

Yours faithfully,
FRANK FIELD,
House of Commons,
August 16.

Apartheid struggle

From Mr R. K. D. Shah

Sir, While it is undoubtedly true, as Maryam Mahmood-Harris says in her letter today (August 19), that Indians have played a leading role in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa right from the beginning, we must not overlook that, however deplorable the recent violence against them, the first line of attack of the deprived and disfranchised black majority population is and has always been fellow blacks in their segregated townships.

It is only when black anger and frustration cannot be contained that Indians have been victimized.

That is hardly surprising in view of the position of the Indian community as a buffer, albeit unwilling, between white rule and privilege on the one hand and black enslavement on the other, a situation that is not unique to southern Africa, as the history of the rest of the continent shows.

Factors in 747 crash

From Flight Lieutenant E. M. Milne

Sir, The recent JAL disaster must remind many of us of wartime occasions when pilots have successfully kept damaged aircraft in the air long enough for crew members to take their chance of safety by parachute.

Captain Takahama, displaying the same skill and courage, was without the prospect of saving any of his passengers by this means.

I already know most of the arguments against the provision of parachutes in civil aircraft. But I see no reason why passengers who fly regularly shouldn't provide their own - and their children's. Canopies can be designed according to weight and the harness need not be the bulky item we remember from our flying. A specially designed escape hatch might be needed, that's all.

If only one per cent of air disasters were of a type where parachutes could be employed and if, in these cases, there was time only to get the children out, I'd still think parachutes a worthwhile provision.

Yours faithfully,
VAN MILNE,
Royal Air Force Club,
128 Piccadilly, W1.

The weaker sex?

From Mrs Jean Denton

Sir, May I defend my sex against the recent judgement (report, August 16) that women are more prone to sickness than men. The figures when looked at indicate that the age that maximum sick leave is taken is between 25 and 34. I presume it would not occur to a man that this is the time women are most likely to be responsible for young children, and that the term "sickness" will not apply to women alone but to their offspring.

I cannot accept the insinuation that women give up more easily. Past experience has shown me that you have to discover a woman fighting against flu at work - a man will probably announce his martyrdom.

I have personal experience of a working woman, whose children were accident-prone, looking for somewhere to happen, who was most capable of running her department from the Out Patients department; according to the figures she would have been a failure!

Yours faithfully,
JEAN DENTON,
External Affairs,
Austin Rover Group Ltd,
Canby, Coventry, West Midlands.

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JEAN DENTON,
External Affairs,
Austin Rover Group Ltd,
Canby, Coventry, West Midlands.

ON GUARD AT BR

Tomorrow the NUR General Secretary, Mr Jimmy Knapp, hopes to announce a decisive ballot result in favour of his union retaining its political fund. On the same day - now that he has defeated the hard left members of his executive who wanted an immediate ballot in the drivers-only train dispute - Mr Knapp will set in motion what will be seen as the biggest test yet for the 1984 Employment Act. British Rail's 11,500 guards will be asked whether they are prepared to break their contracts of employment in order to oppose the introduction of operations that would not need their services.

The two events are not unconnected. Mr Knapp is a shrewd trade union games-player with an indifferent hand to play. His industrial suit is weak. His safety suit is strong. He hopes that political opposition to the Government will give him some time.

The British Rail Chairman, Sir Robert Reid, has intensified his campaign to extend the use of trains-without-guards which are a vital part of future efficiency. With firmness of purpose BR has sacked the non-cooperating men and advertised for replacements. Mr Knapp, who had hoped for more campaigning time before the vote on industrial action had to be taken, won the best ballot

date he could hope for once the Board's sackings had roused the hard-liners to his left. Since in this dispute the Board has been making the running from the start, the union simply has to react as best it can.

The ballot result is likely to be known on Tuesday. If it is a "no" to industrial action, if the guards' anger at the sackings is shorter-lived than their fears for their shrinking industry, the Board will naturally be well satisfied. As will the Government - if in the short run less publicly so.

The result is thought more likely, however, to be a "yes". Memories are already returning to 1972. The 80 per cent vote for industrial action when the National Industrial Relations Court ordered its first strike ballot stands high in railway mythology. No one pretends that British Rail is as likely to cave in now as it did then but the effect of a legal strike ballot upon management resolve, public opinion and Government attitudes still remains to be seen.

The management need not be cowed. Its greatest imperative is the economic pressure on the rail industry. Ballots add legitimacy to a strike. They do not create it.

BR has said that it will not allow the network to be put into the disarray that overtime bans and the absence of rest-day

working would be likely to cause. It would prefer to shut the railways down. There is a sound tactical case for this approach - and a sound commercial one too. Industrial rail customers, who have become increasingly used to finding alternative means of transport would at least know exactly where they stood.

To public opinion, however, the Government's concentration on the importance of ballots has created a sense that a majority vote for industrial action is a justification thereof. That is perhaps an inevitable aspect of the early practical applications of a new Act over which so much angry verbiage was spent. Yet whatever the orators may say, or have said, laws are tested by time, not in the heat of their first use.

Commuters will be particularly angry and those with Conservative members of Parliament are unlikely to keep them unaware of their anger. The Government should continue to stay well in the background to this dispute, saving its muscle for the bigger battles over public sector pay this winter. It should be neither campaigning for British Rail nor pressing the Board to give way in the face of public dissent. Rail strikes lose rail jobs. That is the simple truth of the matter, and may yet, regrettably, be proved to be so.

PRIVATE BEDS FOR PRIVATE HOSPITALS

Local health authorities and other "interested parties" are now considering a hefty consultative document issued with speed, but little imagination, by the Department of Health and Social Security in response to evidence of bad management and poor accounting in the provision of private facilities within the National Health Service.

The Minister of Health has resisted advice to reappraise private facilities in the NHS altogether. Instead he has sought to correct the habits of inefficiency and dishonesty that have brought the system into disrepute, not least in the eyes of the Auditor-General whose refusal to approve some NHS accounts sparked the current controversy.

The 31-point proposals principally clarify the responsibilities of administrative and clinical staff involved in private treatment within the health service. They are especially careful to elucidate the consultant's role, and do so with the clear implication that the gentleman's trust traditionally placed by administrators in the medical profession can no longer be taken for granted. This is exemplified in the new directive that "the practice in some health authorities of allowing consultants to act as agents for the collection of charges should cease".

Section 125 of the handbook states that "proposals for changes in the number of pay beds must be considered by the

health authority." The new NHS general managers, appointed following Sir Roy Griffiths's reforms, should certainly take this on board. They should reflect whether their responsibility for maximizing efficiency in the NHS without detriment to the needs of NHS patients would be better discharged with or without pay beds.

The £56 million annual income from pay beds is dwarfed by the overall NHS budget of £17 billion. There are just 3,000 pay beds in all of England. It should be decided whether the pay-bed bureaucracy which now, for example, demands the creation of the post of private patient officer in every hospital authorized to provide private care, is really the best and most cost-effective use of trained administrative staff. Mr Clarke emphasizes that this particular post will not require the employment of more staff but the transfer of staff from other duties; but that is no absolution from inefficiency in use of resources.

The patient who wishes to opt out of the NHS has a range of choice available. The latest DHSS figures reveal over 200 private hospitals in England with more than 8,000 acute beds between them. The supposed need to maintain pay beds to allow choice is an idea unrevised by governments since Bevan's day, when nationalization left few private acute hospitals outside the affluent south-east.

Nor is the NHS especially competitive. According to the DHSS its average cost per day

for "hotel charges" is £120 in an acute bed. One company in the private sector with hospitals in every part of the country claims its average cost is £118, for which it points out, the patient has a private bathroom, and the room will have been decorated much more recently than under the DHSS ordered seven years' maintenance cycle.

Nor do consultants need the sop of private practice within the NHS to entice them to work in the state sector. There are junior doctors queuing up for a chance to become NHS consultants with or without private bonuses thrown in.

The extra bureaucracy suggested by Mr Clarke is correct and necessary if the present pay bed system is to be run in an orderly way. But Mr Clarke's paper does not prove that pay beds are worth such effort (except to doctors) in areas that are covered by the private hospital boom. Even in those not yet covered there is the option of contracting out the management of private wards to be run at the profit that the NHS has failed to make.

When each authority's comments on the consultative document are delivered at the end of October general managers have the chance to remind the DHSS of one fundamental precept: that the National Health Service exists principally for the benefit of its patients and not its staff. Both parties now have a significant private sector alternative for their custom or their skills, and the managers have the responsibility to say so.

PAPER RAINBOWS

Fleet Street has known some stormy times of late: at The Times we are particularly well qualified to identify the eye of the hurricane because of our long interruption of publication six years ago. The storms come and go, hopefully at diminishing strength, and as the clouds disperse and the sun comes out, there are glimpses of a bright and promising rainbow.

The weather changes quickly in this part of the world. The 1977 Royal Commission on the Press could not give a good forecast but took, at the Monopolies Commission noted yesterday, a "somewhat pessimistic view" of the prospects for new entry into this market by any national or provincial morning newspaper: since then, there have actually appeared one more national daily and one Sunday and some new titles in the provinces, and "several people or companies have said they are considering the launching of new national titles". Has the deep depression drifted away from Fleet Street to give better weather than in living memory?

When the Royal Commission reported, odds were shortening against the survival of the then full list of titles. The Daily This

was said to be on its last legs, the Sunday Times was about to fold, and the Other Group was certain to give up and go into television/property/entertainment by the end of the year. Television and radio were going to take over, with the help of free newspapers; the communications role of newspapers, and the mighty Fourth Estate would end up lock, stock and barrel in an elephant's graveyard. How many would have prophesied an ambitious bid by North of England United Newspapers for an empire like Fleet Holdings?

There are said to be two significant factors behind this sea change in the weather or rather, one provides the opportunity to create the second. New(er) technology, reducing production costs by streamlining methods of production, is the key. Computer-assisted techniques, notes the Commission, have led United to be able to claim that in its provincial empire it has reduced staffing by 15 per cent in the last few years, while turnover per employee has increased by 47 per cent.

The lock which the new people are said to want to pick is that to the strong room holding

Reuter's millions. The Fleet investment in this juicy windfall was valued, last month at approximately £104 million.

Not everyone who follows a rainbow is looking for the crock of gold. Some have a dream, some have an irresistible fascination. Some Press barons wanted a share in political power and influence, however imaginary or transitory. Some wanted a vehicle to draw attention to themselves or their other wares. Some, eager to prove as the commission recognizes that the "character and style of management of the provincial press differ widely from those of the national press" want to bring in the example of the provincial success stories to an industry crying out for change: where United is advancing into "direct input" by negotiation with the unions to the benefit of readers and advertisers, the Commission simply records that Fleet's printing works were the "most modern in Fleet Street", but still operated on the traditional system of hot metal. The transfer of Fleet newspapers to United may not be expected, it concludes, to operate against the public interest. How could it possibly do so?

numbers on a list in his stable. He is of course very effective at getting these "lobby horses" to attend but to make them drink the Government water is not within his power.

I must therefore leave it to our readers to draw their own conclusion as to why the Government have suffered rather more than the usual number of defeats or r defeats on the floor of the House I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
STANLEY OF ALDERLEY,
Tryslwyn Fawr,
Rhosybol,
Amlwch, Anglesey.

On the western front

From Mr A. D. H. Leishman

Sir, Surely the point about this summer is the return, with a vengeance, of our old friend the "prevailing westerlies", so absent over much of the past three years. Not only have they prevailed, but done so with vigour, such that neither the Continental nor Azores high-pressure zones have had a look in.

Anyone who has watched the daily weather maps will have noticed that, not since April, I would think, have we had anything other than an airstream coming in off some part of the Atlantic. Given that the weather is, as the forecasters tell us, only normal in the circumstances, it is archetypal British weather with all its exasperating uncertainty.

The last three years, gave us an idea of what Continental summers are usually like: they are not typical for us.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. D. H. LEISHMAN,
75 King Street,
Southwell,
Nottinghamshire,
August 18.

CBI and TUC

From the Deputy Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry

Sir, Under the heading "Creating climate

THE ARTS

Opera: Paul Griffiths at Salzburg Henze's fantastic dream of Monteverdi

Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria
Felsenreitschule

Carmen

Grosses Festspielhaus

Monteverdi's penultimate opera must surely have no parallel in taking a single moment and exploding it over three hours. For, despite all the sub-plots and divine interventions, it is consistently sighted on what happens when a traveller returns with the stiffness, surprise and uncertainty that flicker through the minds of the reunited before normal life can be resumed. Things are different when you come back to them - and opera too, if not normally quite so startlingly different as when *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* comes boggling the consciousness at Salzburg, in a version where the bare engraving of the text has been spiced with colour by Hans Werner Henze.

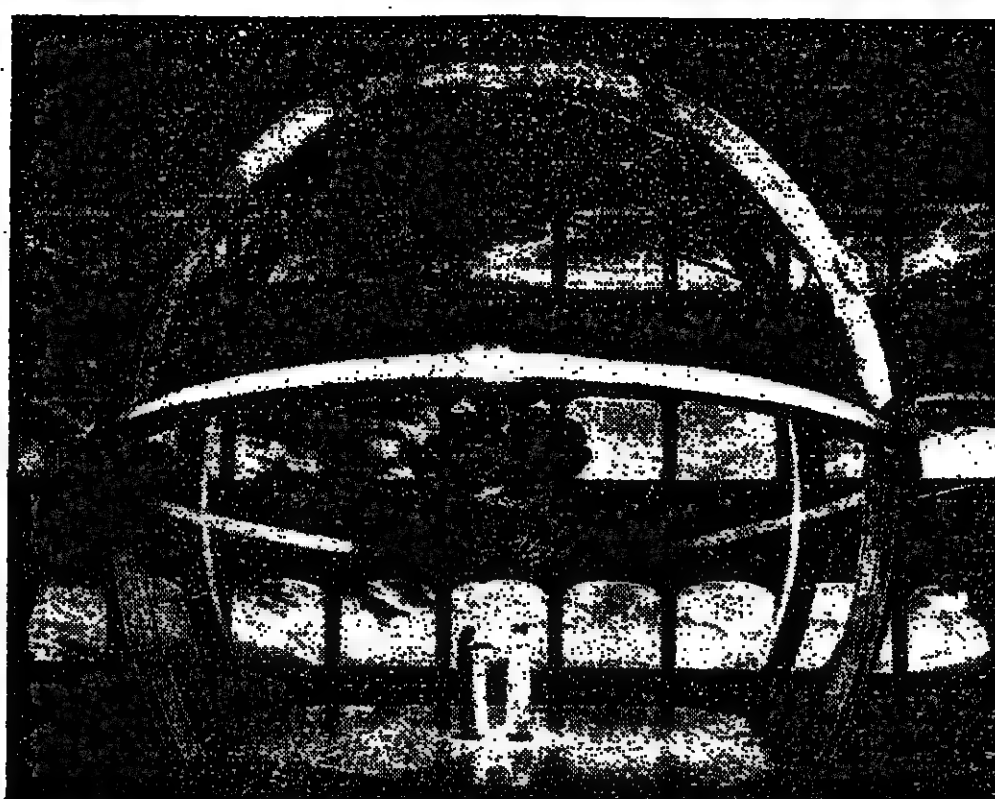
Henze's score is of course riotously inappropriate, requiring symphonic wind, only low strings, piano, harp, guitar, banjo, accordion and a glittering, booming swirl of percussion. All this he has sought to justify by referring to the variegated orchestral resources he supposes to have been available at the San Cassiano theatre in 1641, but that must be one of his jokes. It is also hard to keep a straight face when he explains that he has omitted violins because they would lend too much "opulence" to the proceedings.

Much nearer the mark is his description of his score as "a personal dream" of the original. It is Monteverdi seen through deep water, through water which reflects at every moment the full-blooded musical personality of the arranger.

The harmony, he insists, is unchanged, but this again is a curious statement to make when most of the score survives only as a vocal line with a bass. The least that can be said is that Henze's solutions are not always the most obvious, and there are many instances where he uses the opportunity to fill in with new melodic lines: there are plangent viola d'amore solos to accompany Penelope, for example, and places where Monteverdi comes to share Henze's taste for Caribbean dance rhythms.

Still, the greatest displacement is that of colouring. To some extent the flamboyant ensemble is thinned down to distinguish characters: Ulysses has a solid Brahmsian accompaniment of clarinets, horns and cellos, the suitors have a strident orchestra lacking a middle register. Minerva has an ensemble bright with high tuned percussion. But the plucked strings are rarely quiet for long, and subtleties have to be sought out within an atmosphere of outrageous excess. I can imagine other dreams of Monteverdi that might be more interesting, but certainly none more lusty.

The task of dealing with this monster has fallen to two sweet souls who cope admirably. Jeffrey Tate, conducting in Salzburg for the first time, will



have to return himself for his gifts to be fully revealed, and preferably when he faces an orchestra more reliable than the Austrian Radio Symphony. Michael Hampe, producing, takes advantage of the width and acrobatic of the Felsenreitschule to present a magnificent baroque spectacle, set by Mauro Pagano within a great orrery and stridden by gods and princes in heavy antique costume. The trappings are heroic, and some aspects of the production are suitably rhetorical: Minerva flying through the air in her cloud chariot, Neptune rising from the waves, the suitors posturing and pressing their case with strong formal gestures.

But for the central couple the style is simpler, one of intimate dignity, flowering at the end when they are left alone on stage now illuminated by dawn: the homecoming has at last been accepted, Thomas Allen's voice at this point aptly begins to float free from the vigour and

even urgency with which he has been singing, though his performance throughout never falls from nobility. Kathleen Kuhlmann sounds as if the part of Penelope lies a little low for her, and yet the resulting soft darkness of tone is not at all inappropriate, nor is her restraint.

The supporting cast is excellent. Robert Tear enjoys the honeyed lyricism available to him as the shepherd Eumaeus, and Alejandro Ramirez wastes no time in showing off his youthful flame of tenor as Telemachus. From Daphne Evangelatos as Melanto there is a nice intimation of the weakness and emotional volatility from which Penelope holds herself aloof, while the suitors are forcefully individualized by Harald Stamm, Josef Proschka, and Douglas Ahlstedt. Festival casting gives us Marthe Saimay as a warm Erica and James King as a Jove whose music sometimes recalls Siegmund's, given this

voice, and indeed this scoring. Ann Murray, patently not well, had to sing most of Minerva's music from offstage at the performance I saw, but nothing had dimmed her ability to make a splendid show of brightness and agility in the high register, not least in some of Henze's naughtier ornamentation.

If this edition will remain a rather eccentric way to enjoy the piece, the same may be said of the Karajan production of *Carmen*, reviewed by John Higgins on its unveiling at the Easter Festival. Having the more recent memory of the Glyndebourne production in one's eyes and ears, it is perhaps harder to accept the inflated orchestra, the relative faintness with which life stirs across the vast width of the Grosses Festspielhaus, the grotesque intrusion of a flamenco troupe into the second act, and the impossibility of getting Bizet's quicker ensembles across this enormous space.

Even judged on its own good,



Ulisse: the final love-scene within Mauro Pagano's great orrery, and Thomas Allen in the title role.

Television Musical therapy

There were times, said Corporal Terry Coleman, when a band was playing and all 45 members were playing well, when you had a certain feeling in the stomach and even the hairs rose on the back of the neck. He was recalling the atmosphere at the first public performance of the RAF band in Germany just over two months after the crash in which 19 of its members had been burned to death.

The concert was in aid of the relatives of the dead and the survivors tried them on for strength, replacements blowing away alongside survivors. BBC's Real Lives followed the fortunes of the band after that horrific crash on February 11, and last night's *And the Band Played On* was not only a poignant reminder of the consternation of people visited by an unpredictable disaster but also of the particular fellowship of the military band.

Cpl Coleman sustained burns in the crash himself, and described the ball of flame from the aviation fuel tanker that rolled towards him as he scrambled to escape. Like many of the other bandmen, or musicians as they would prefer to be known, he had suffered

guilt: "Did I stop anybody getting out? I've got to live with that and hopefully get over it." It was strange, he said, playing with new people, stranger still, one imagined, when the depleted band tried to achieve some sort of musical balance. Cpl Coleman himself having lost his clarinet in the inferno, had to play the instrument of a dead comrade.

New uniforms, meant for the men who died, arrived and the survivors tried them on for fit and adjustment. Then there was the first coach trip and the understandable apprehension. Most of the casualties of the crash had been at the front. Drum-Major Dave Thompson, the senior survivor, set the example on the first trip, resuming his front seat position. They all agreed that blowing again was therapeutic even if it would not erase the memory of the horror and the loss of the comrades. Under their new Director of Music, Squadron Leader Rob Wilkinson, who wife thought his post required a combination of Auld Previn, Lew Grade and the Archbishop of Canterbury, they seemed to be blowing well.

Dennis Hackett

Edinburgh Festival theatre Unwieldy pageant

The Wallace
Assembly Hall

Having so improved their production of *The Thirle Eschates* last week, presenting it as a pageant with vigour, force and great success, it is a shame that the same success has eluded the Scottish Theatre Company in their production of *The Wallace*.

They have saddled themselves with something of an impediment to begin with, for in one sense it seems ill-advised to present two plays that require a certain degree of pageantry in production. *The Wallace*, written by Sydney Goodair Smith and first performed in 1960, is not a particularly good play. It tells the story of William Wallace, the thirteenth-century outlaw who defied Edward I and was eventually captured and put to death by him.

While there is a great deal of ambivalence about the two characters and the position of compromise in which they find themselves, and while some psychological detail is introduced, for the most part the play is moved by the broad sweep of anger and sadness both at the fate of Scotland and that of Wallace and at the confusion of liberty and war.

Tom Fleming justifiably mounts his production with pageant-like scope, again introducing stirring music by John Grundy and a simple but effective set by Nadine Bayliss which uses metal walkways against a grey backdrop that echo and clatter to suggest the urgency of steel upon steel. But

the cast are dispersed around this less than effectively, the pace is slow and the whole thing becomes unwieldy.

At the centre of it all William Wallace, portrayed by Goodair Smith with both sympathy and exasperation as man whose fierce pride and love of his abused country fit him on but also make it personality that ultimate brings his own downfall. Al Haggie catches admirably the mixture of humour, spirit and pride and gives a great deal of strength to the performance, but he traps himself into a stilted delivery that limits his range of expression considerably.

Leonard Maguire as Edward also gives an ambivalent performance as a man both harsh and yet prepared to offer sympathy, and this aspect of the tragedy does emerge with some force. At the end the two are within a hair's breadth of reconciliation, a reconciliation which the rest of the play has made plain could never occur.

But, while there are many threads woven into the play there is also a great deal that is over-written and many themes are under-developed (Wallace's psychological motivation for his state of mind is really only thinly sketched) and this production falls foul of its tendency to overstatement.

The music is stirring and the costumes are fine, but, despite occasional glimpses of good humour and invention, the production as a whole laboured and often melodramatic.

Sarah Hemmings

Concerts

Ulster Orchestra/
Thomson
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The Ulster Orchestra, making their first appearance at a Prom, lost no time in impressing us with a nice account of Nielsen's *Hellas Overture*; the general brightness and clarity was very like the kind of sound I remember Bryden Thomson regularly obtaining from the Scottish National Orchestra a few years back.

This freshness of sonority turned out to be a useful asset in the first performance of Malcolm Williamson's *Encyclopaedia Next Year in Jerusalem*, some settings of Jorge Luis Borges which here sounded less lavishly scored than they actually were. Heather Harper sang the soprano part with her usual skill and authority. Borges's words and Williamson's music both show a strong identification with the modern state of Israel; this sense of embattled affirmation did indeed come across. The stylistic gestures and general approach to tonality may be conventional enough, but Williamson demands respect for his desire to communicate such issues as directly as possible. The audience responded warmly.

Liszt's Second Piano Concerto began the second half. Even Barry Douglas's intensely

idiomatic approach to the solo part - commanding, unaffected, and with some beautiful intonation - was unable to compensate for the rambling construction and weird scoring of this thoroughly sub-standard piece, whose hold on the repertoire remains a mystery. Not exactly one of the composer's best works.

Sibelius's Third Symphony, however, is very definitely one of his best works, being full of ideas which are marvellous vehicles for cellular growth as well as most beautiful in themselves. It is also none too easy to play, demanding - and on this occasion consistently receiving - excellent playing from each section of the orchestra: cellos and violas quite outstanding throughout, lovely cool woodwind in the Andantino, superb movement, and restrained but heroic brass at the climax.

But above all this was 30 minutes of music-making which reminded us that Thomson is quite one of the best conductors in these islands: the tempo for the Andantino was wonderfully poised, and Thomson handled the difficult trajectory of the Scherzo-cum-Finale third movement with unerring sureness. This performance was a memorable experience, one of the very best things in this year's Proms to date.

Malcolm Hayes

Medici Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Boccherini's *Fandango* has no rivals except perhaps Ravel's *Bolero* when it comes to the numbing repetition of the seductively catchy refrain. In the pop business they would call it the hook. One hears Boccherini's hook a hundred times for real, then a hundred times more going round one's head during the concert interval.

Yet one was grateful for the *Fandango*, appearing as the finale of Boccherini's Guitar Quintet No. 4, because it seemed to rouse John Williams and the Medici String Quartet to produce something like the imaginative playing of which they are capable. Williams began to generate a Spanish sort of heat in the centre of the texture, with artfully varied pickings and flamenco-style drummed chords (plus a few gypsy-like knocks on the guitar's wood). The violins responded with some properly raw tone on their scorching embellishments, and the cellist added his insouciant downward glissandi with a delightful light touch.

It had not been as good as

that throughout. Anthony Lewis had a brave and mostly successful stab at the dauntingly high-lying cello line which Boccherini (himself a master cellist) wrote for his own amusement in this quintet's second movement. But the problems of balance and blend between the guitar and the other four instruments were never satisfactorily solved.

The guitar's rather strong amplification might have symbolized Williams's status as this year's South Bank Summer Music director, but in musical terms it served only to emphasize some fairly inconsequential details and to reinforce the disturbing impression that Williams's instrument was tuned slightly sharp of the strings.

Two other quintets, this time with the viola player Michael Cookson joining the Medici, framed the Boccherini. Mozart's C major Quintet, K515, suffered, particularly in the minuet's chromatic passages, from a heavy, unvaried legato that seemed a little graceless. There were other minor flaws as well: Ivo-Jan van der Werff played the first violin's celebrated solo in the Andante so strongly, only to make an agonizing error on a simple pick-up, and the leader Paul Robertson sometimes wanted to push the finale's tempo fractionally faster than his colleagues were prepared to go.

In the G minor Quintet, K516, however, the players rose to the heights of eloquence this music demands. The muted sonority of the first Adagio was especially impressive; the grief-laden accents were present, but tempered with delicacy and a sense of unburied spaciousness.

Richard Morrison

Edinburgh this summer does not have its usual monopoly of theatrical visitors from overseas: in London the LIFT Festival is now being speedily followed by the arrival of John Houseman's Acting Company at the Old Vic and an exchange season at the Royal Court from which one half-American and one half-American cast from Joe Papp's Public Theater in New York will occupy both the Sloane Square stages until the beginning of October in two new American dramas. One of these, *Tracers* at the Theatre Upstairs, is the Vietnam Veterans' play which has just come from off-Broadway; the other, *Aunt Dan and Lemon*, starring the Oscar-winner Linda Hunt, opens on the main stage next Tuesday and then moves across the Atlantic to the Public in late October.

There is of course nothing new about the Court going Public: the exchange scheme was first devised in 1982, though since then it has been Papp who seems to have had the better of the bargain. The three productions that Max Stafford-Clark, the Court's resident director, has taken him from here have been Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls*, Michael Hastings's *Tom and Viv* and Ron Hutchinson's *Rat in the Skull*, while all three have had in return has been Thomas Babe's deeply laudable newsroom drama *Buried Extra*. Now however, in Stafford-Clark's view, the balance is being remedied.

"One or two critics may not have cared for *Tracers*, but the majority of the reviews have been very enthusiastic and there's no doubt that a group of Americans working upstairs have brought a kind of buzz to the building which we don't normally get. And now on the main stage we have the new Wally Shawn, which he has written specifically for an Anglo-American company and which I find very exciting indeed."

Shawn is probably best known over here as the writer and star of *My Dinner with Andre*, but his links with Stafford-Clark go back a decade to *A Thought in Three Parts*, which caused a considerable scandal when first seen here at the ICA. That in turn led to Stafford-Clark being asked to direct at the Public and so, eventually, to the present exchange.

"At the time I was still with Joint Stock, and after years running the Traverse I had decided that I never again wanted to have to manage a building as well as an acting company. But then, when I went to work at the Public, I found that Papp was having such a woe, would time as a theatre manager that I came back here and agreed to take over the Court from Stuart Burge five years ago."

"When I first met Papp he was strongly opposed to the British theatre: he felt there was a terrible snobbery about the RSC making occasional guest visits to his city, where he'd been doing Shakespeare in Central Park for years without all that press adulation. But when he found that we were specializing in new work he began to get interested, and he was very keen on the idea of *Top Girls* coming over to New York. We worked out with American and British Equity a system of 'actor weeks', so that if three English actors do a Royal Court play at the Public for two months, say, then six American actors could do one month at the Court in return. At first the unions thought we were trying to import stars by stealth, but, once they realized that we were genuinely interested in keeping companies and productions together in their original form, then they began to be more helpful."

Now in his early forties, and one of the three sons of a well-known media



Aunt Dan and Lemon, which begins previews tonight, is yet another strand in the Royal Court's American lifeline, as the theatre's director, Max Stafford-Clark (above), explains to Sheridan Morley

Transatlantic tributes

psychologist (the other two are a drummer and the producer of the recently-released Deborah Kerr film *The Ascan Garden*), Stafford-Clark seems on the face of it an unlikely transatlantic partner for Papp. Where Papp remains one of the most flamboyant of Broadway showmen, Stafford-Clark offers the rather lower profile of a Joint Stock founder.

"Joe is a commercial producer well aware that *Chorus Line* is what has kept him afloat these last ten years; he's a populist and I'm certainly not. But the Public Theatre has always had a sharp ear for what's best in new writing and current social issues: I hope we'll be getting their *The Normal Heart*, at the Court soon. But I started this exchange out of financial necessity: our GLC and Arts Council grants are now only enough to run the Court for nine months out of 12, and unlike any comparable subsidized theatre we get no extra help from our own local council. So the only way we can stay open for the full year is with Papp's help: he's promised to give us fifty thousand dollars as a challenge grant, provided we can match it with the same amount from private donations over here."

"We may not have been shrieking quite as loudly as some theatres, but times at the Court are financially very bad indeed; as

things stand, even with Papp's help, I'm still going to have to close the Theatre Upstairs for three months at Christmas. Ten years ago this theatre employed twice the present number of actors and did three times the number of plays; now, we ourselves only stage four productions a year downwards and four upstairs. If we have to drop below that, there will really not be much point in keeping the Court going at all."

Yet Stafford-Clark is clearly not going to give up that easily. His Court contract has just been renewed for another five years, which means that by the end of it he will have been the longest-serving of all its directors; and, though there have been occasional periods of bilateral disenchantment with both press and public, there is no doubt that his track record there, stretching as it does from David Hare's *Slag* and Howard Brenton's *Magnificence* through to the Public transfers and *Falkland Sound*, has been among the most distinguished since Devine's.

"I think one criticism of the Court in my time, as in Gaskill's, has been that we tend to get entrenched and beleaguered by what we see as an often hostile economic and critical world beyond Sloane Square; that's one reason why these New York transfers have been so good for us. To go there and have people tell you that your production has changed their lives is a refreshing change from the usually rather low-key Chelsea response. Financially we don't make any money from the exchange because it still costs so much to ship shows across the ocean, but, in the case of *Top Girls* and *Tom and Viv*, when we brought them back to the Court after their New York runs we were able to stage them for another season and do very well with them as 'New York hits'."

But, despite his enthusiasm for Papp and the Public and their often ecstatically enthusiastic audiences, Stafford-Clark still reckons he is better off directing in London:

"Theatre in New York is the glamorous end of the Stock Market, and, though I've sometimes had my doubts about one or two critics over here, at least none of you has the make-or-break power of the man on the New York Times. Here theatre is still taken more seriously as a way of looking at society, rather like the novel in the nineteenth century, but I think we've just been through a golden period in British drama which is rapidly coming to an end. If money runs out on the railways, trains stop that day; if money runs out in a theatre, it takes two or three years for the effects to be fully realized. At the moment I've got the best stock of new plays waiting to be staged here that I've ever had, but when we get through those there won't be any more unless we can find a way of paying for them."

"In my first five years at the Court I think we've been able to focus on the women who are now writing the most interesting plays about human territory (Caryl Churchill, Sarah Daniels, Louise Page) and also on plays about public issues (*Rat in the Skull*, *Operation Bad Apple*, *Not Quite Jerusalem*). Insignificance also came from here in my time, and we've now got a new David Mamet coming up, as well as a revival of *Women Beware Women*. Beyond that, a lot will depend on how soon we can get the Theatre Upstairs running again all round the year; if we can take up Papp's challenge and raise the other half of his grant over here, then we might be all right. For a while, at any rate."

Even judged on its own good,

capable of dominating and giving point to Rubalcaba's devious routines. His fluent trumpet, sharp-toned alto saxophonist and rather diffident tenor saxophonist - all inexcusably, unidentified - are clearly exceptional musicians, but displayed few hints of original thought. The more felicitous moments included a trumpet solo imaginatively laid over the subdued hustle of drums and hand percussion, and a strange passage that managed to be

Richard Williams

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Jazz
Gonzalo Rubalcaba
Ronnie Scott's
Following the extraordinary trumpet Arturo Sandoval, who launched the Ronnie Scott Club's summer-long festival of music from Cuba, would be no doubt be dismissed as showing circumstances by a cakewalk. For Gonzalo Rubalcaba, the pianist and composer whose script opened the second part of

the season this week, the problem is compounded by the obvious temptation to make direct comparisons. Rubalcaba's ensemble goes for the same blend of bebop, funk and Latin idioms, giving evidence of a similar technical and conceptual sophistication and a comparable desire to impress which in other contexts would be dismissed as showing off. What Projecto Cuba - as the group is known - does not appear to have is a soloist approaching Sandoval's stature,

simultaneously funeral and dreamy. Rubalcaba features himself at length, his piano style reminding me at various times of Rodney Franklin, Keith Jarrett and Richard Clayderman. Almost as bizarre was the sight of his bass-guitarist switching briefly to a bassoon. Such hyperactivity, symbolic of an unwillingness to let the music settle into a groove, certainly keeps the audience on its toes.

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THE TIMES Portfolio

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BUILDING AND ROADS					
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Wimpey (George)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Monk (A)	100	95	British Petroleum	100	95
Rugby Centric	100	95	British Gas	100	95
Brickhouse Dudley	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Redwood	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Marshall (Hull)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Lang (J)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
French Kier	100	95	British Airways	100	95
ELECTRICALS			British Airways	100	95
Plancy	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Electronic Rentals	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Amstrad	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Auto Sec	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Mercer	100	95	British Airways	100	95
CAP/Tip	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Concession	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Int Signal & Control	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Telegraph Rentals	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Power-Review Kent	100	95	British Airways	100	95
FOODS			British Airways	100	95
Island Protein	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Avanta	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Averis Plastics	100	95	British Airways	100	95
RHM	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Beverly Foods	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Carrs Milling	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Nichols (N) (Wm)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Veal	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Fin	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Ream	100	95	British Airways	100	95
INDUSTRIALS & F&E			British Airways	100	95
IMI	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Johnson & PB	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Hall (M)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Hanson	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Hepworth Ceramic	100	95	British Airways	100	95
James & Simpson	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Harris (Philip)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Hanning Assoc	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Ilford (J)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Harley	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
Weekly Dividend					
Plancy	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Electronic Rentals	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Amstrad	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Auto Sec	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Mercer	100	95	British Airways	100	95
CAP/Tip	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Concession	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Int Signal & Control	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Telegraph Rentals	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Power-Review Kent	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
BRITISH FUNDS					
British Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
RTS Under Five Years					
British Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

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British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
IN FIFTEEN YEARS					
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British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
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British Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
REX-LINKED					
British Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
BANKS DISCOUNT HP					
British Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Airways	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Petroleum	100	95	British Airways	100	95
British Gas	100	95	British Airways	100	95

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Firm trend continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Aug 12. Dealings End, Aug 30. Contango Day, Sept 2. Settlement Day, Sept 3. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	1985 High	1985 Low
BUILDING AND ROADS					
Bentley Concrete	100	95	British Telecom	100	95
Wimpey (George)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Monk (A)	100	95	British Petroleum	100	95
Rugby Centric	100	95	British Gas	100	95
Brickhouse Dudley	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Redwood	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Marshall (Hull)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
Lang (J)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
French Kier	100	95	British Airways	100	95

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Wimpey (George)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
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Lang (J)	100	95	British Airways	100	95
French Kier	100	95	British Airways	100	95

500	575	Grand Met	595	•	•	56.5	41.5	37.5	33.5	29.5	25.5	21.5	17.5	13.5	9.5	5.5	1.5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•</
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Stage set for battle royal over Fleet Holdings

The principal surprise to emerge from yesterday's official approval for United Newspapers' ambitions towards Fleet Holdings is that the stock market was taken aback by the verdict. It removed a degree of uncertainty, and the likelihood of a lucrative auction was increased by the bellicose statements which both sides made later in the day.

But this Government has made it crystal clear on many occasions in the past that it believes that the affairs of the market should be settled by the market - unless, of course, it has a particular axe of its own to grind. It would have been a considerable triumph of persuasion if Lord Matthews, chairman of the United, had managed to convince either Mrs Thatcher or Mr Tebbit that there was a case for making an exception in this instance.

One look at the milk-and-water report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission would have been enough to tell Lord Matthews to saddle his horse and unsheathe his sword. All objections to a bid were brushed aside, all assurances from United were accepted. Sir Godfrey Le Quenne and his fellow investigators would have had to perform logical contortions to have followed this with a recommendation that the proposed merger was against the public interest.

The stage, then, is set for a battle royal. Its course may well be a great deal less predictable than the preliminary skirmishing. This is the biggest such newspaper deal to win the permission of the Government, and others beside United may feel that their credentials are good.

There is no doubt that Fleet is a rare prize: its fate has been a constant topic of discussion among Fleet Street management, for it was recognized as the most vulnerable of the national newspaper groups in the next few years, its fate had to be settled as conveniently as possible without breaking the rules of the game.

That was why Robert Maxwell collected a key stake in Fleet last year, when he did not know whether he would walk off with the Mirror Group. That pocketed, he had to divest, and chose United as the best prospect. Mr Stevens, the head of United, can be relied upon if he wins, to run Fleet efficiently, to go along with the drive for lower manning and more computers, and not to rock the boat too much at the tabloid end of the market, and as yet he evinces little desire to mould according to personal whim, the character or political content of the Express newspaper that Fleet owns. He is, in a word, safe.

Lord Matthews and Ian Irvine, the duo who run Fleet, can equally be relied upon to put up a strong fight. They have their own ambitions, and may reflect that the Monopolies report is a two-edged sword. If it is all right for United to bid for Fleet, then presumably it is fair game for Fleet to bid for United - and Fleet is the bigger of the two.

Guinness could be good for Bell investors

Today's choice investors in Arthur Bell & Son who live and work outside the City must finally make up their minds about the £360 million bid for Guinness. All acceptance must be lodged by 3 p.m. tomorrow and it will not seem a minute too soon for those involved, even though only 57 of the permitted 60 days will have been consumed in the battle. If it seems longer, that is because rumours were beginning to swirl around Bell's shares as long ago as mid-May.

Yesterday, the last mirage of a white knight vanished. Morgan Grenfell, Guinness' merchant bank, asked its counterparts in the Bell camp if any key parties of information had been passed to any third party. The answer was, in the negative, which can only mean that no serious rival to Guinness is still interested. Finally, the board of Bell's conceded last night that it was no longer expecting an alternative offer. After seeking a saviour, Bell has at the crunch reverted to preferring independence, but that can be

dismissed for the cynical skin-saving exercise which it plainly is.

The question that remains is stark: should Bell shareholders accept the Guinness offer or not? That must depend on how far ahead they are prepared to look.

If the deal goes through, Guinness shares will probably be trading water, if that is not mixing the metaphor too much. There will be considerably more Guinness shares on the market. Quite a few institutions hold both Guinness and Bell shares, and will want to trim their extra allocation of Guinness to maintain balance. A further justification for that is that Guinness' earning per share will not progress at anything like their recent rate for a year or so. Time, perhaps, to move to more exciting pastures.

But for those with slightly longer sight there is the opportunity to share in the transformation of Guinness. It has come a long way since the ruling family was shrewd enough to acquire the services as chief executive of Ernest Saunders, but the addition of Bell will provide a platform for more strategic moves. Mr Saunders will doubtless have studied with interest yesterday's results from W. H. Smith, which failed to excite the stock market.

The only other alternative for Bell shareholders is to reject Guinness and take their chance on the Bell share price. That, particularly after the disarray on the Bell board during the course of the campaign, would not be a clever move. Mr Miquel's attempt to strategic diversification, into hotels, has come too little and too late. But the fundamental worry is the outlook for its whisky brands. Their prospects are brighter as part of Guinness.

Inside story on higher wages

Why did wage settlements edge up in the first seven months of this year, despite an unemployment level stubbornly above 3 million? The answer, according to the second *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, published yesterday, lies in the divided nature of the labour market.

Essentially, there is a core of employed workers, which the Oxford economists describe as the insiders. And there is the periphery, or the outsiders. These include the unemployed as well as housewives and young people who are attracted to, for example, part-time jobs.

What happens on the outside has little effect on the core, according to the review. Because of this, much of the current analysis of unemployment, including the concept of the "natural rate", is irrelevant. Wages in the core respond to changes in employment prospects for insiders.

Thus, wage increases came down sharply from over 20 per cent a year in 1980 to 5 per cent in 1983 because of a sharp deterioration in employment prospects in the core. Disturbingly, the reverse now appears to be true: even a small improvement in prospects (in other words, a marginal reduction in unemployment) could be enough to set off a damaging wage-price spiral.

The review supports much of current government policy on freeing up the labour market and expanding job creation measures such as the Community Programme. The analysis suggests that this could be extended much further without any distorting effect on the core labour market; but that in the short term, a deflationary boost is required.

This, the Oxford economists suggest, would have to be accompanied by an incomes policy. They prefer the traditional sort rather than the fancier ideas of Professor Layard or Meade. The consequences of doing nothing are shown in the forecast contained in the review. Unemployment dips from 3.12 million this year to 3.07 million next because of the Budget job creation measures, but then stays just above the 3 million level. Average earnings meanwhile, continue to rise at 7.8 per cent a year.

Banks urged to extend Brazil debt deadline by 140 days

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Brazil's leading commercial bank creditors have agreed to recommend a further delay in principal repayments on the country's public-sector debt, amid indications that Brazil will soon resume discussions with the International Monetary Fund.

Mr William Rhodes, chairman of the bank advisory committee for Brazil, said in a statement yesterday that the committee was recommending a 140-day extension to the present 90-day repayment moratorium, which expires on August 30.

He also said that the 14-bank committee would ask all 700 creditor banks to keep in place 16 billion of trade and inter-bank facilities for Brazil, during the latest extension, which would run until January 17.

The advisory committee's recommendation was reached after talks in New York with a

Brazilian team headed by Senhor Carlos Lemgruber, president of the central bank, and Senhor Carlos Eduardo de Freitas, director of international affairs at the central bank.

The extension appears to have the full support of the IMF, which has told the committee that negotiations with Brazil are due to resume next month.

M. Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the IMF, telegraphed the advisory committee saying that a team of Brazilian officials would be visiting Washington in early September to review economic policies and results for 1985, and to begin discussions about 1986.

Brazil has been at odds with the IMF over the economic policies it should be pursuing, and last February the IMF suspended disbursements on a \$4.2 billion loan package after the country failed to meet IMF



Jacques de Larosiere: talks resume next month.

targets on money supply and inflation.

Since then the Government of President Jose Sarney has insisted that it will not accept IMF measures which would lead to further austerity and recession. This week, Senhor

Francisco Dornelles, the Brazilian finance minister, said he would prefer to postpone a new IMF agreement until next year.

Brazil's failure to reach agreement with the IMF has also led to the postponement of a multi-year debt rescheduling deal. A multi-year deal covering about \$45 billion of the country's \$103 billion debts was agreed in principle with the banks earlier this year but put on ice pending agreement with the IMF. As with other debtors, commercial banks insist that rescheduling is conditional on an IMF programme.

Commercial banks have remained relatively relaxed about Brazil's posture towards the IMF because the country has remained up to date with its interest payments to them. The delay on principal payments now being recommended is shorter than the 180 days which Brazil is believed to have requested.

PCW agents vote for Phoenix

By Alison Eadie

Lloyd's members' agents representing PCW names voted yesterday to support an initiative by two PCW names to set up a new underwriting agency and take over the management of profitable marine syndicate 900, with Mr Ian Fosgate as underwriter.

A total of 19 members' agents went to a meeting called by the two names, Mr Ian McClelland and Mr Richard Graham. The agents act for 1,200 PCW names with a capacity this year of £33 million out of a syndicate total of 1,889 names and capacity of £57 million.

The agents were asked to vote on four issues: first, whether a run-off of syndicate 900 should be avoided (passed by eleven votes to one); whether they supported the new agency, Underwriting Agency (again passed by eleven votes to one); whether the council of Lloyd's should be asked to permit the initiative to proceed without administrative delay (passed by sixteen votes to none); and whether they supported Mr Ian Fosgate as the underwriter (passed by five votes to two).

The meeting was also told that Sir Michael Edwards, who had been proposed as the new chairman of the agency, had withdrawn from talks. Sir Michael said he had every sympathy with the objectives of the sponsors.

If the initiative is to succeed, the PCW names must come up with a strong board of directors and obtain permission from Lloyd's for Mr Fosgate to be the underwriter. He is suspended from working in the market.

Mr Fosgate, yesterday outlined what he believed should be done with the PCW syndicates, which have created losses of £130 million for the names. 940 and 918 should be reinsured in the commercial market - outside Lloyd's.

The names fear that without the creation of Phoenix to continue the profitable business, their eventual losses in a run-off would be doubled.

Legal action to order check on Milbury

By Jeremy Warner

An attempt will be made in the High Court today to force the Government to investigate the affairs of Milbury, the housebuilding group whose chairman, Mr Jim Raper, was once described by the Takeover Panel as "unfit to be a director of a public company".

Mr Christopher Whitmore, a private shareholder in Milbury, is moving a notice of motion under the Companies Act 1985 before Mr Justice Shaw which, if successful, would force Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to appoint inspectors to investigate the company.

Concern over the company's affairs prompted the Stock Exchange to suspend dealings in Milbury shares two days ago. It issued a statement saying it was seeking information on the default on a loan made to Milbury by Saint Piran, Mr Raper's main British company, and the transfer of the security for the loan.

St Piran is believed to have made a loan to Milbury which was secured by a charge over Westminster Property Group, a commercial property company acquired by Milbury two years ago in a deal worth £10 million.

Mr Raper has been reported as saying that ownership of

Westminster, which was probably Milbury's largest asset, has been transferred to St Piran and that St Piran has sold its controlling 78.7 per cent stake in Milbury. However, no formal announcement of these transactions has yet been made to the Stock Exchange.

A spokesman for the Department of Trade and Industry said last night that the legal action had taken the department by surprise and that to date it had received no complaints that would warrant an investigation.

Mr Raper's affairs have been investigated once before by the Department of Trade inspectors. In 1981 he was criticized in a Department of Trade report which recommended that St Piran be wound up, for exercising control over the company's board from the position of a minority shareholder.

A year earlier he was criticized by the Takeover Panel after he failed to meet obligations imposed on him under the takeover code.

Mr Raper came into conflict with the Takeover Panel again in 1983 when he launched his takeover bid for Westminster Property. The company was finally acquired after he decided to obey the Takeover Panel.

Fisons to raise \$50m with Euro-note issue

By Our City Staff

Fisons, the pharmaceutical group, is to raise up to \$50 million in the budding Euro-note market by issuing short-term Euro-notes. The programme it has arranged is only the second of its kind by a British company.

The aim of this method of borrowing is to raise short-term money more cheaply than through the banking system and also to diversify the company's source of funds. Mr Roy Thomas, finance director of Fisons, said yesterday that he hoped to have between 1/2 to 1 per cent off the group's dollar borrowing compared with what Fisons was paying on short-term bank borrowings.

The notes will be of 30 to 183 days maturity and the proceeds will be used to replace short-term dollar bank borrowings. But in contrast to the hugely popular Euro-note issuance facilities, the Fisons notes are not underwritten by banks so the funds are not guaranteed.

The other key feature is that the notes will be sold and distributed in the market by two designated dealers, in this case Credit Suisse First Boston, one of the innovators in this market, and Morgan Guaranty Ltd. Note issuance facilities have traditionally been distributed by the panel of banks which underwrite the issues.

Profits at Pearl drop 50%

By Richard Thomson

Pearl Assurance, Britain's second largest industrial life assurance company, yesterday announced a 50 per cent drop in profits for the half year to June 30, as a result of large general insurance losses.

On the disclosure that profits were down to £4.16 million, compared with £8.36 million at the same time last year, the company's shares fell 55p to 114.5p, despite a 1.5p increase in the interim dividend to 15.25p.

General insurance trading losses accelerated to £10.18 million from £890,000 last time because of bad weather in the United Kingdom and reserving against claims on the company's reinsurance business.

Commenting on the results, Mr Nigel Proddow, chief general manager, said: "It is a matter of concern that such a small part of our business as general insurance can have such a big effect on our figures. The result is very disappointing."

The direct business contributed £8.43 million to the £15.2 million general insurance underwriting loss.

The rest of the losses came mainly from reinsurance business, where reserves had to be strengthened by more than £3 million against expected future claims. Large losses on warranty business and on business from Monarch Insurance in the United States and Community Reinsurance in Canada are expected.

Pearl also announced that it was planning to sell the loss-making Monarch before the end of the year as part of a move to curtail its reinsurance business. Pearl maintained a steady improvement in its life business. Briannic Assurance, which also announced interim figures yesterday, showed premium income increases in all areas of business. Industrial branch premiums rose more than £1 million to £47.59 million, and ordinary branch premiums were up £1.3 million to £15.98 million. The interim dividend was increased from 8.5p to 9.5p. *Tempos, page 16*

IN BRIEF

Halifax to cut rates

The Halifax Building Society has announced cuts in its investment rates from September 1. Its ordinary share rate will fall 1.25 percentage points to 7 per cent net of basic rate tax, but its Extra Interest Account is coming down only one percentage point to 8.75 per cent net. The 90-day Account will fall 1.25 percentage points to 9.5 per cent net, while the Premium Extra Account falls from 10.6 per cent to 9.4 per cent.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society is to cut its mortgage rate of more than the prevailing 1.25 per cent points, to 12.65 per cent from September 1.

Chairman dies

Charterhouse's chairman and chief executive Mr John Hyde has died after a short illness. Mr Hyde, who was 57, became chairman of the group and a director of the Royal Bank of Scotland after its acquisition of Charterhouse this year.

S Africa pullout

Phibro-Salomon, the American investment house, announced yesterday that it was closing its Johannesburg office and is making an orderly withdrawal from all activities in South Africa. The company said that the move would have no material effect on its business.

French Trade Minister Edith

Cresson has ruled out a devaluation of the franc, saying it would not compensate for French industry's failure to gear its products to world markets. She was addressing a news conference after the publication of disappointing July trade figures. The last franc devaluation was in March 1983.

Hawley rise

Hawley, the services company, lifted profits from £11.0 million to £12.1 million before tax in the six months to June 30. Turnover was up £119 million to £193 million and the interim dividend is 1.75p. *Tempos, page 16*

Bid fails

Norway's Kosmos shipping group has warded off a takeover bid by the world's largest cruise ship operator, Norwegian Caribbean Lines (NCL), when shareholders agreed to issue 2 million new shares, effectively ending the bid for a controlling share of the company.

Icahn confident

Mr Carl Icahn, the US financier, said yesterday he hoped to complete his acquisition of Trans World Airlines, subject to financing, by November 30.

Revlon review

Moody's Investors' Service said in New York that it has placed under review, for possible downgrade, the debt ratings of Revlon Inc because of the company's announcement that it may buy back as much as 13 per cent of its shares.

W H Smith unveils plans for expansion

By Clare Dobie

W. H. Smith will open its first specialist record shop next month. It plans to open 15 record shops under the Sounds FX banner in time for Christmas. They will stock records, tapes, compact discs and related books and magazines.

Specialist record retailing is just one of the areas W. H. Smith intends to enter. It is expanding the existing chain of 33 bookshops and may open greetings card shops. It also plans to add 17 new Do It All do-it-yourself superstores this year, as well as expanding the high street business for which it is best known.

The company revealed these expansion plans yesterday, along with results for the year to June 1, 1985. Profits were £43.1 million before tax, compared with £43.4 million for the 70 weeks to June 2, 1984 and £38.4 million for the 52 weeks to June 2, 1984. The dividend of 10p "A" shares is up from 4.2p to 5p. *Tempos, page 16*

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
FT Ind Ord	988.2 (+6.0)	RISKS	
FT All Share	635.21 (+3.05)	Sound Diffusion	54p +10p
FT Govt Securities	83.46 (+0.13)	Andre de Bret	18p +3p
FT-SE 100	1,313.9 (+8.8)	Berkeley Expt	88p +10p
Bargains	21,989 (-)	York Lyde	175p +18p
Dataseam USM	104.17 (+0.5)	Parkdale Hgts	31p +3p
New York		Johnson & Firth Brown	22p +2p
Dow Jones	1,325.9 (+2.2)	Memcon Int	195p +15p
Nikkei Dow	12,704.81 (+70.78)	Shiloh	50p +5p
Hong Kong		Vesper	210p +10p
Hang Seng	1,650.78 (+41.98)	Peritos	50p +3p
Amsterdam	217.5 (+1.4)	Thomas Locker	31p +2p
Sydney: AO	955.9 (+1.7)	United Parcels	88p +5p
Frankfurt		Intasun Leisure	138p +8p
Commerzbank	1416.5 (+2.8)	Parkfield Gp	132p +7p
Brussels		Mountview Estates	380p +20p
General	330.92 (-0.98)		
Paris: CAC	217.2 (+1.4)	FALLS	
London: S&A General	494.2 (+4.5)	Yelverton Inv	22p -2p
		Greenall Whitley	35p -3p
		Ascom Computer	32p -1p
		Aluminium Oil & Gas	150 -1p
		KCA Drilling	31p -2p
		Sheldiff Brk	18p -1p
		Weeks Ass	18p -1p
		Keat & Scott	33p -2p
		Real Time Control	50p -3p
GOLD			
London Evening	\$335.75pm-\$335.90		
Am: \$335.00/\$335.50			
New York:			
Comex:	\$335.95		

Saxon given extra week to accept Charterhouse deal

By Ian Griffiths

Shareholders in Saxon Oil have been given another week to decide whether to accept the terms of a proposed merger with Charterhouse Petroleum, which they must now consider alongside a takeover bid from Enterprise Oil.

The future of the merger, agreed and recommended by both boards last month, has been thrown into doubt by the £120.6 million bid from Enterprise, which was formally announced on Tuesday. By 3 pm on that day 79.3 per cent of Charterhouse shareholders and 36.4 per cent of Saxon shareholders had given their acceptance for merger terms.

Some of the Saxon acceptances had been received before news of Enterprise's interest was made known last week and might be withdrawn. However,

around one third were received after that news emerged. The merger offers have therefore been extended until next Wednesday.

Enterprise bought a further 208,000 Saxon shares in the market yesterday at 540p, the price of its cash offer to Saxon shareholders, lifting its stake to 15.34 per cent.

The Enterprise bid was recommended by a narrow majority of the Saxon board on Monday but only after an all-day meeting.

Enterprise is expected to send its formal offer document to Saxon shareholders next week-end. Soon after that they will receive a statement from the dissenting Saxon directors, explaining why they believe that it should be rejected and the Charterhouse merger accepted.

Tea merger inquiry

The Sri Lankan Government is to investigate whether the proposed merger between Brooke Bond and Lipton, both multi-nationals dealing in tea, will result in a monopoly which will affect Sri Lanka's tea prices overseas.

The Trade Minister, Mr M. S. Amarasiri, told the cabinet yesterday that his ministry was drafting a Tea Trade Practices Commission Bill which would have provision to investigate companies that reach merger agreements being formed.

The two chiefs of Lipton and Brooke Bond in Sri Lanka were summoned by the ministry on July 25. They explained that their companies' share of tea exported from Sri Lanka was 14 per cent, and that internal sales accounted for 1 per cent.

W H SMITH

Annual Results 1985			
70 weeks to 2 June 1984 £ million		52 weeks to 1 June 1985 £ million	**52 weeks to 2 June 1984 £ million
1,290.2	TURNOVER	1,067.2	986.4
42.1	TRADING PROFIT	42.5	37.1
0.1	Property profits less relocation costs	0.5	0.2
1.2	Net interest receivable	-	1.1
43.4	PROFIT BEFORE TAX	43.0	38.4
18.3	Taxation	17.3	15.5
25.1	PROFIT AFTER TAX	25.7	22.9
(0.8)	Extraordinary items - profit/(loss)	0.3	(0.8)
24.3	NET PROFIT	26.0	22.1
14.58p	Earnings before extraordinary items	14.84p	13.25p
5.6p	Dividend	5.0p	4.2p

- * Profit and earnings per share for the 52 weeks up 12%.
- * Dividend increased by 19%.
- * Major jump in DIY profits to over £4m.
- * Sound performance of W.H. Smith retail chain despite decline in home computer market.
- * Further development of UK specialist bookselling chain.
- * Wholesaling benefits from new computer control system.
- * Significant expansion in North America.

**Last year the financial year end was changed to the Saturday nearest to the end of May and the results then announced covered the 70 weeks to 2 June 1984. To provide a comparison the unaudited results for the financial year, 52 weeks to 2 June 1984, are shown.

For copies of the 1985 Annual Report please write after 6 September 1985 to: The Company Secretary, Strand House, 7 Holborn Place, London SW1W 8NR.

W.H. Smith & Son (Holdings) PLC

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Distillers gains 11p after broker investigates Hanson interest

By Derek Pain and Cliff Feltham

As the acrimonious battle for Arthur Bell & Sons draws to its climax, shares of the Distillers Co., the biggest Scotch whisky group, of them all, were back in the takeover spotlight.

They jumped 11p to 308p as Wood, Mackenzie and Co., the broker, revealed it had again been examining the DCL share register - this time to try to spot the rumoured interest of Lord Hanson's Hanson Trust.

Wood, Mackenzie drew a blank. But it pointed out that the share register had not been updated since early this month and there had been active trading in the current account.

The broker said: "Our view is that bid speculation cannot be disregarded and with the stock yielding 7.6 per cent there is not much downside."

It was probing by the broker which last year disclosed that the cash-rich General Electric Company had acquired a 3 per cent DCL shareholding. The GEC interest has not been sold. The struggle between Guinness and Bell has highlighted

shares in Astra Holdings, a firework company, have been placed at 135p each by Hitchens Harrison & Co., the broker. Dealings are expected to take place under the Stock Exchange S35 special dealing rule facility. Later a USM presence may be sought.

that, although the Scotch whisky industry is going through a difficult period, it still has many attractions. And although Guinness is prepared to pay about £360 million for Bell's offer has not put the shares on the high-flying rating which a whisky company could at one time have been expected to command.

In fact, stripping out Bell's hotel interests, it has been calculated that the offer puts no more than an average industrial price earnings multiple on the group.

Such thoughts, the market reasons, could prompt Hanson Trust, which recently raised £519 million through a rights issue, to try for the DCL, which has traditionally enjoyed only a modest share rating.



Lord Hanson, chairman of Hanson Trust.



John Clement, chairman of Unigate.

Hanson shares gained 2p to 209p and GEC was unchanged at 190p.

Since its mammoth rights issue - the biggest by a fully privatized company - Hanson's name had been linked with various companies in this country and overseas. Its only move since the cash call has been to take a 7 per cent share stake in Bowater Industries, the packaging and paper group.

Although the DCL was the most sought after FT 30 constituent, the market enjoyed another fine session. Institutional share buying, encouraged by a little transatlantic interest, pushed prices higher in a market short of stock.

Hopes that interest rate cuts are not far away continued to help sentiment and the FT share index finished at 988.3 points, a six-point gain. The FT-SE index of 100 shares advanced 6.8 points to 1,313.9 points.

Government stocks had a happier day, with gains stretching to 2½%.

Among blue chips to move ahead were BOC Group, up 8p to 292p, and Thorn EMI, 5p higher at 367p.

British Petroleum, which has sold its 3.6 per cent shareholding in Johnson Matthey gained 7p to 348p. The group, which at one time contemplated bidding for Johnson Matthey, has also sold its 633,330 convertible preferred shares. It seems that BP has lost interest in attempting a takeover now that new

chief executive Mr. Eugene Anderson, is following signs of sorting out the group. Johnson Matthey eased 2p to 116p.

Imperial Group, still to sell its troublesome Howard Johnson catering chain, slipped 1p to 182p. There is market speculation when the long-running 16-30 saga ends, Imps will move in for

Rush & Tompkins building and property group advanced 6p to 238p yesterday. Sir Robert Southern, Stockholders' Trust, a persistent fan of the company, lifted its shareholding to almost 11 per cent.

Unigate, the food group headed by Mr John Clement, Unigate shares gained 5p to 90p, a peak for the year.

Breweries remained firm on beer price increases. Vaux Breweries, the Sunderland group, rose a further 2p to 345p. It, too, is being named as a possible Imps target. But some of the buying is on the back of the brewery's extensive hotel interests which embrace about 40 properties, including the London International.

The Cardiff food group Avana was good for a 3p rise at 562p on the back of a buy signal from the stockbroker Fielding Newson-Smith.

The broker has trimmed its full-year forecast by £2 million to £22 million because of difficulties with margins on jam and volume weakness at Vista. As a result, the first-half

performance is expected to show only a slight improvement.

Mr Virani, together with his son Azim, has picked up a 10.06 per cent stake in the group. The group's shares are worth £22.2 million at 420p.

It points out that the record of growth at Avana remains outstanding - the group is financially strong, and the return on capital is the best in the sector.

Elsewhere in the sector, Bassett Foods, which was bought off a takeover bid from Avana, was 3p better at 156p while Dalgety went 2p better to 420p.

Prince of Wales, where there is talk of a bid, gained 1p to 163p as the Kuwait Investment Office announced a 9.7 per cent shareholding.

In April the KIO sold a 30 per cent interest in the company, its share price was £1.50. The group, which is a subsidiary of the KIO, has a 26 per cent shareholding.

Quality Inns, an American hotel group, has approached 30 per cent of the capital and manages the POW hotels. The American group has announced plans to create a 100-strong European hotel by 1990.

It is owned by a company called Manor Care, which is the fourth largest nursing home operation in the US.

Shares in the dress hire group Moss Bros reflected disappointment at the rejection by the Greater London Council of plans to redevelop the company's headquarters in Covent Garden. The plan, for offices, shops and flats, could according to some outside estimates, have produced a £10 million profit for the company. But Moss Bros is pressing on with the scheme and plans to appeal to the Environment Secretary. The shares, after initially falling 45p, settled at 485p for a drop of 35p.

The USM group Property Trust hardened up at 10p on the arrival of chairman of Mr Rodney Virani, uncle of Mr Azim Virani, of Belhaven Brewery.

Suddenly W. H. Smith is moving into several new areas of retailing.

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W H Smith pins its hopes on retail expansion

By Derek Pain and Cliff Feltham

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TEMPUS

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credibility remains low, however, there is little chance of rapid improvement in the share price.

Pearl Assurance

Pearl Assurance's announcement yesterday that interim profits had dropped to half the level of last year's got an emphatic thumbs down from an anxious and disappointed market.

Pearl shares dropped 55p to 143p, largely because after last year's disappointing result Pearl had clearly indicated that it expected things to improve rapidly. They have not, and the prospect for the rest of the year must remain uncertain.

As at the end of last year, the company's general insurance business, which forms only a small part of the whole, has had an inordinately big effect on the overall result. Losses on United Kingdom underwriting jumped more than £3 million to £8.43 million. The company, which has heavy exposure to household and motor insurance, ascribes the loss almost wholly to bad weather early in the year.

But worse was the reserving of more than £5 million because of poor reinsurance business. Last year's figures were hit by unexpected reserving, and Pearl had suggested that more would not be necessary. As a result, the company's hope that its reserves are now adequate must be treated with caution.

Despite this, the dividend is being raised by 11 per cent which, with the proposed sale of Monarch Insurance in the United States, could look like a defensive move on an asset value per share, after all, is now well over £15 - far more than the share price. But even if Pearl's management is beginning to worry, it is hard to see who would want to buy an old-fashioned industrial life office when other parts of the insurance sector are attracting so much attention.

Moreover, the sale of the loss-making Monarch is little but a relief to Pearl and its shareholders alike.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Rich pickings when the press moves house

By Judith Huntley

The dwindling number of development sites left in the City of London and on its western fringes, is causing developers and agents alike to cast envious eyes over buildings whose use could change dramatically.

The newspaper industry in the City, Fleet Street and around Holborn is sitting on very valuable property assets, which could help to pay for the changes in newspaper technology now being pushed through.

And the office market in those areas is booming at the moment with rents in the Fleet Street and Holborn rising rapidly for the first time in several years.

The key to these potentially lucrative sites lies in relocating the printing operations and finding other office space for journalists and administrators.

London's Docklands is to be the home of at least three of the national newspapers' printing operations and it is possible that a fourth will move there. That leaves the question mark hanging over the large buildings now occupied by the press. The redevelopment potential has not escaped the property market.

Several of the City firms of chartered surveyors have been looking at the massive Mirror Group headquarters at Highborn Circus, a plum site which would repay redevelopment. It is owned by Mr Robert Maxwell, who plans to move the printing presses to Docklands or somewhere south of the Thames.

Mr Maxwell says that journalists and other staff will stay in Holborn. But the prospect of capitalizing on a site, that some City estimates put at



£30 million if cleared, must be tempting speculation. It is interesting that development on the Mirror site could enable the building of commercial offices, with smaller amounts of space being occupied by the newspaper itself.

Associated Newspapers, which publishes the Daily Mail and The Mail on Sunday, is pushing for its new printing works in Docklands to be completed ahead of schedule.

The agent says that locations with such high visibility and good access have soared in value.

In 1981 a former Thames Water Authority site of 2.5 acres in St Dunstons, Surrey, was sold for a record price of £550,000 an acre. Last year £240,000 an acre was paid by Fleetway, the developer, for a 2.5-acre site in St Dunstons.

Mr Wiggins, 24, says that the site is a prime location for a newspaper office, and that the site is a prime location for a newspaper office.

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REJECT THE GUINNESS OFFER

Here's why

BELL'S has growth potential

- * BELL'S had 4.3 per cent by volume of total Scotch Whisky industry exports to the ten largest export markets (excluding the U.S.A.) during calendar 1984. In calendar 1982, our share was only 3.5 per cent. There is substantial scope for profitable growth abroad as BELL'S moves towards the 20 per cent market share which BELL'S has already achieved in the U.K.
- * BELL'S is moving ahead in the U.S.A. - the acquisition of Wellington Importers, the hiring of key personnel and the promotional expenditure have all been necessary steps towards future success.
- * The newly reopened Piccadilly Hotel can again contribute to profits. BELL'S is determined to maximise profitability and capital appreciation from its hotels business.
- * BELL'S has a record of strong cash flow. Future cash flow will be available to invest in new sources of profits.

BELL'S is a sound investment

- * BELL'S ordinary shares have an above-average dividend yield. At the Guinness paper offer value of 271p, BELL'S shares have a dividend yield of 4.22 per cent based on the dividend forecast of 8p (net) per ordinary share for 1984/85. That is a higher yield than shown by the FT-Actuaries Industrial Group (which is 4.04 per cent) and is higher than the yield on Guinness ordinary stock units, which is 3.78 per cent.
- * BELL'S is forecasting a further increase of not less than 15 per cent in dividends for the current financial year.
- * The average price earnings multiple of industrial company shares is 12.93. With that multiple applied to non-hotel profits alone, the value of a BELL'S share would be 210p with the value of the hotels in the price for nothing.
- * The BELL'S team of Board and management remains dedicated to the successful growth of the BELL'S business.

(a) The source of the figures for total Scotch Whisky industry exports to the ten largest export markets excluding the U.S.A. was the Scotch Whisky Association.

(b) The statement of BELL'S strong cash flow is based on the net cash inflow from the on-going businesses of BELL'S, before acquisitions of fixed assets and investments and excluding proceeds from disposals, over the three years ended 30th June, 1984, of £58.1 million.

(c) The value of Guinness' paper offer of 271p per BELL'S share was based on the middle market closing price of Guinness ordinary stock units of 272p as shown in The Stock Exchange Daily Official List dated 19th August, 1985 (being the latest practicable date before publication of this

advertisement) and by valuing the proposed 81 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock of Guinness at par.

(d) The source of the average price earnings multiple of industrial company shares was the FT-Actuaries Industrial Group Index on 19th August, 1985. The earnings per share to which this multiple was applied were the estimated profits after taxation and preference dividends of the Non-Hotels Group set out in the letter dated 30th August, 1985, divided by the existing issued ordinary share capital of BELL'S.

(e) The yield on Guinness ordinary stock units is based on the forecast dividend of 7.2p (net) for the year ending 30th September, 1985 and the price of Guinness ordinary stock units calculated in accordance with paragraph (c) above.

IGNORE THE GUINNESS SLOGANS

The Guinness bid worth 245p cash or
271p in paper IS NOT ENOUGH

Guinness' publicity masks its basic weaknesses
in business and management methods

REJECT THE GUINNESS OFFER RETAIN BELL'S FOR YOURSELVES

COMMODITIES

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

صبرنا من الراحل

CRICKET: NATWEST SEMI-FINALS GO INTO SECOND DAY

Stoppage for bad light pleases Essex more than Hampshire

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

SOUTHAMPTON: Essex, with six wickets in hand, need 94 runs to beat Hampshire.

Bad light towards the end of what had been a beautiful day brought frustration at Southampton yesterday in this NatWest semi-final between Hampshire and Essex. Essex, needing 225 to win, were 131 for four at the time, with the result looking increasingly likely to depend upon Gooch. He is 57 not out and Essex have 23.2 overs left.

The decision to suspend play was not popular. Every seat was taken and the supporters on both sides were beginning to sit

As they almost always do in these one-day games, Essex bowled well, no one better than Stuart Turner. Straight down from Edgbaston was Alec Bedser, who had come to watch an assortment of players, though not I imagine, Turner. He might have taken more than a passing interest in the two Smiths, Terry, Nicholas, Parks and Tremlett of the Hampshire side, and Gooch, Pringle, Richard Foster, East and Lever of Essex. No one travels further than Bedser on his selectorial rounds or would have been better qualified to put Ellison on the right lines.

It was getting on for lunch-time before the pitch started to dry out and Hampshire to play with any freedom. By then, Greenidge had been caught at first slip in the eighth over. Terry leg-before in the 21st (he seemed to play as much with his front pad as his bat yesterday), and Christopher Smith run out going for a second to Foster at deep square leg. Smith, caught after injury, was batting well but it was his brother, Robin, and Nicholas who first got Hampshire into trouble, scoring 32 in no time before lunch, taken at 92 for three after 39 overs.

To have made more than the 132 they managed in their remaining 21 overs, Hampshire would have needed a longer innings from Robin Smith or Nicholas. In the event, Smith was bowled off his pads and Nicholas leg-before, when they both looked in form. With these two and Terry as his victims, Hampshire's 32 was very effective, just as Gooch was very economical.

Hampshire's Turner was also excellent, but with the bat. At 36, and quite grey, he, too, keeps his game going well. He and Marshall added 52 in eight overs for the sixth wicket and Marshall and Cowley another 39 in six overs for the seventh.



Dropped: Lilley misses Nicholas (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Hampshire's innings was over just before 3 o'clock. At 12 o'clock, they would gladly have settled a 100 sure, for as many as they made.

What made the end more galling for Hampshire was that they had just taken a wicket and could they have got another straight away it would have given them the edge. Not long before, at 110 for two, Essex had appeared to be well on the way to winning. They had lost Hardie and Prichard to Nicholas, but McEwan was going well. Gooch was jogging along and there was no need to hurry.

Then McEwan, driving at Connor, was caught at the wicket, and Essex started to get into a state before tea. The over before tea, the umpire Barrie Meyer would have had to give Gooch, then 53, run-out by a direct throw from Nicholas. He had the benefit of the television replay. Nicholas expressed his disappointment, while saying with a good grace that it had not been an easy decision to give.

Tea having been taken, Pringle and Gooch then found themselves together at the bowler's end as the ball pinged around the field as if on a bagatelle board. Eventually it found its way back to the wicketkeeper's end, just ahead of Pringle.

So to resume Fletcher to face Marshall with Hampshire right back in the game. Marshall's second ball, of lightning speed, very nearly bowled him. Whereupon the umpires offered the batsmen the chance to come off. Without hesitation, and perfectly sensibly, they took it. Half an hour later, it was raining. Should no further play be possible, today or tomorrow, Hampshire would go on to a higher scoring rate. Otherwise Essex should still do so.

BOWLS

Duo on song as they orchestrate victory

By Gordon Allan

Frank Maxwell, aged 48, and Peter Richardson, aged 34, of the Haxby Road Club, York, won the Gateway English national pairs championship last Wednesday in a sportingly contested final lasting over four hours, they beat Keith Renwick, aged 25, and Ken Briscoe, aged 35, of Hydon Colliery, Durham, 16-15.

It is the third time since 1912 that a Yorkshire club have won this title. Saltburn won it in 1935, and Bootham in 1953.

The painfully close score says a great deal about the sort of match it was. "We'll get them in singles", seemed to be the idea of a good Yorkshire idea at that - and given the fact that a national championship was at stake, you could hardly blame the players. There were three no-ends to stretch the tension, and mid-rink conferences were frequent.

Going into the last end, Renwick and Briscoe were 14-13 in front. Briscoe, at least, had not lost his looser ends and Richardson, his opposite number, bowled four good woods. Yorkshire eventually held the two shots they craved to win the game, and Renwick was slightly but decisively overthrown in his attempts to save.

When it was all over, Maxwell broke into song - "I do it my way".

In the semi-finals, two counts of four at the 13th and 14th ends brought the Haxby club to the fore. Burrows (Winget, Gloucestershire) up to 15-15 against Renwick and Briscoe, which made for a tighter finish than seemed probable. Renwick and Briscoe won 22-19, Mike Lonsdale and Tom Brown (North Shields, West End) were always trailing in their match against Maxwell and Richardson, who won 19-13.

PAULINE: Semi-finalists K. Renwick and K. Briscoe (Hydon Colliery, Durham), 22-19 Burrows and M. Lonsdale (Winget, Gloucestershire), 15-15. Maxwell and P. Richardson (Haxby Road, York) won 16-15. Final: Maxwell and Richardson 16-15 Renwick and Briscoe, 15.

YACHTING

Gunstone is top of the class

By a Correspondent

After wild weather and resultant postponement, Tuesday's racing and pleasant winds greeted the fleet for the third and fourth races of the Lombard British Optimist open and national championship on Southampton Water yesterday.

The third race began unopposed with a general recall but, second time of asking, the race officer got the 44 young competitors away to an impressive start. At the windward mark, the pattern was established with Tony Gunstone of Bawl Valley SC in a commanding lead, followed by his club colleague, Andrew Ramsay, and Richard Pye of Draycott Water SC. The order was maintained to the finish, despite a slight effort by Ramsay to catch Gunstone off the wind.

The water was choppy for the fourth race and the wind banked south-west. This time it looked as if the Irish were going to win with Paul Flynn leading on the water but he was disqualified for being over the line at the start. So Jeremy Davy (Farnham SC) and Douglas Baker (Farnham SC) had to race for themselves and stayed ahead of Martin Dinham (Restrongtong SC).

On an unexpectedly fine day the demanding race of 7.5 miles, the 3-20, consideration and the leaders were round in 73. Belle Robertson, another former winner, promised to join them at under par, but a six in the last leg held her to joint fourth place on 75 with Claire Hourihan, the Irish champion.

The leaders achieved their ends in the myriad contrasting ways that the British Optimist class has shown in the European championship. The British contingent consists of three boats: Alistair McMichael, Alf Reynolds, and Michael Hicks. They are competing against a strong team from Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Sweden, who have full on-the-water support teams.

Two races were sailed yesterday as poor weather conditions cancelled Tuesday's sailing.

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Never So Bold can join select band of sprinters

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

August 22, 1985

Recessions make companies wary of taking risks exactly when, paradoxically, new initiatives are vital for industry's long-term recovery. When conditions get tough it is no surprise that people keep their heads down - a dangerous practice in the long-term, not least in the area of staff management.

With everything else in the world of business changing so fundamentally, it is no use pretending these difficult times will go away so that personnel management can return to the practices of the past 25 years.

The crunch has come. The relaxed, easy-going staff management systems of the 1960s and 1970s are no longer relevant. Today's personnel problems demand a new, more innovative approach if employers are to develop policies fit for the 1990s.

Virtually all employers face severe promotion blockages. Age distributions have a large concentration of 35 to 50 year olds, many without the skills - or even aptitudes - that will be required in the 1990s. Large numbers of staff are trapped at the top of payment scales. Better career structures and payment systems are needed to retain key specialist groups.

Such developments have important implications for management motivation and salary structures.

Traditionally, white-collar employment has been underpinned by an implicit bargain: in return for loyalty and hard work, the employer has provided job security and career progression. However traumatic it may be for both employer and employee, this implicit loyalty agreement cannot be sustained in the face of the emerging problems and the needs of the future. It must be replaced by an explicit performance contract.

White-collar staff will need to be flexible in the face of change just as much as blue-collar. A new philosophy of adaptability and risk-taking needs to be fostered, as well as greater mobility, both geographically, between employers and in terms of skill changes.

Will personnel managers brought up in the old ways be able to cope with these new demands? Too often, like drowning men clinging to rafts, they have stuck to the old traditions of rewarding and motivating managers.

In the face of dwindling promotion opportunities, the response has usually been to increase the number of senior jobs and to retire

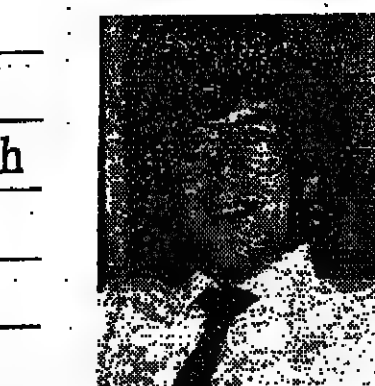
Staff management must adopt a more innovative approach to cope with future challenges,

David McGill says

senior staff early. Rare is the employer who has a lower proportion of jobs at senior levels now than 10 years ago.

Even when, from the early 1980s, discerning commentators outside and within industry realized that things would never be the same again, there was no real effort to overhaul personnel policies radically. The changes made were only playing around the margin.

Today's favourite buzz-words, "management of change", are merely taken to imply changes that will cut costs and will largely affect the non-managerial workforce.



There is little talk of managing changes to increase innovation and income. Five years have been wasted.

Most personnel managers are systems administrators; and the systems are out of date. The response to any event, either outside or within the company, is reactive and viewed with alarm if it threatens the system. Discussions tend to be about modification and amendment rather than replacement.

So the industrial relations stream of personnel has typically been the route to senior positions because it is when they come into conflict with

employees or unions that systems are most likely to break down. The good industrial relations manager can minimize these threats to the systems.

Notwithstanding these criticisms, personnel has improved its status and power base in many companies. The reason is again related to defence and maintenance of the personnel systems. Recession has forced employers to shed labour on a huge scale - another threat to the system has had to be monitored and handled with care. Can personnel use this increased authority to cope with the problems of today?

The first consideration must be whether any solutions can be found to these considerable issues. It would be easy to suggest there are absolute answers. But research and experience of advising companies do suggest there are certain approaches that might help. These approaches cover such areas as contract of employment, working time, retraining, management development, appraisal and payment systems.

Those few companies which have introduced changes in these areas have been pleased with the results and feel better equipped to face the future. In these companies, most of them relatively small, the need to be

innovative and pro-active in designing personnel policies has been accepted.

The objective of personnel managers must be to design policies which will allow the organization to achieve its corporate objectives. This covers a whole range of activities from assisting the line manager to run his part of the operation as efficiently as possible, to helping senior managers draw up policies for the entire organization.

Corporate objectives almost everywhere are demanding new directions and new approaches. To help meet these demands, personnel managers are administrators of old to innovative consultants.

They must work closely with other managers in the organization in order to understand the business and the implications of future strategies, and to work out and gain acceptance for new personnel approaches.

These new approaches need to be innovative, forward-looking and, very important, geared to the specific needs of the business. It will not be enough to jump on the latest

personnel bandwagons whether they be high-flier schemes, the introduction of assessment centres, or decentralization of personnel administration. All this requires skills not found in many personnel departments: retraining should perhaps start "at home".

New initiatives will, of course, require changes in the system. It will be essential that they all send out the same signals to employees about what the organization requires from them. For example, if managers are required to be more creative and to take risks, then this should be reflected in the appraisal and the payment systems.

Britain has lived too long with employment policies and structures established in another age. Overwhelming problems now demand their replacement. Unless far more personnel departments, and indeed managers throughout organizations, join the few who have realized that this need must be grasped, disaster threatens. Innovative consultants are now needed in personnel to reverse Britain's economic decline. Are they there?

The author is manpower adviser to the Institute of Manpower Studies

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10.05 Harbinger. How to make spray tans using aerosol cans and a water pistol (r).
10.25 C-P and Qwark. Robotic telephones.
10.30 Play School presented by Chloe Ashcroft. Story: The Day Bill Invented Club by Sonya Dawn.
10.50 Pages from Ceefax.
11.15 News after Noon. 127 Regional News. (London and SE: Financial Report and news headlines with sub-titles).
1.30 Check-a-Blood. A See-Saw programme with Carol Leader (r).
1.45 Songs of Praise from Litchfield. (r) (Ceefax).
2.20 See Hear monthly magazine for the hard of hearing (r).
2.45 Green by Ceefax.
4.20 Green by Joanne and Michael Cole.
4.25 Stop-Gol. The pilot of the OZ2 greets the top skippers who will tow the liner into dock (r).
4.35 Lassie. Saving a seagull.
5.00 John Craven's Newsworld.
5.10 Playhouse Cove. First part of an Australian adventure story. Jim Mason, unemployed since school, considers a career as a boxer. (Ceefax) (r).
5.35 Paddles Up. The ladies join the last of the heats for BBC TV's international canoeing championship over the formidable North Wales courses. Gail Allan defends her Marie-Françoise Grange and Vivienne Golding. The heat winners take on the men tomorrow.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News followed by Weather News.
6.35 London Plus.
7.00 EastEnders. Dan has a new money-making scheme - much to Angie's annoyance. (Ceefax).
7.30 Bodymatters. On Your Knees. The knee is the most complex joint in the body. Only four inches in diameter, lighter and softer than steel, it can take a force of more than 1.5 tons - and is flexible enough to bend and straighten millions upon millions of times. (Ceefax). (See Choice).
7.55 Top of the Pops introduced by Gary Davies and Steve Wright.
8.25 The Laughing Show. Knockabout gags with Les Dennis and Dustin Gee on ice in "Dorville and Tean".
9.00 The Nine O'Clock News followed by Weather news.
9.25 Come Dancin'. The North-West Midlands and West berate it out in dignified style in the final of the 35th series. David Jacobs competes. Charlie Howe supplies the facts and figures and Andy Rose a tribute to the dance band era.
10.10 Salem's Lot. Final part of Stephen King's novel, with David Soul and James Mason in the leading roles. Ben Mears (Soul) realises that supernatural forces are behind the mysterious deaths at Salem's Lot. But the townspeople are too frightened to help the investigation. Directed by Tobe Hooper. (r). 11.40-11.45 Weather.

tv-am

- 6.15 Good Morning Britain introduced by Anna Diamond and Nick Owen. Guest: Glen and Miss United Kingdom. News at 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Sport at 5.38 and 7.37. Pop video at 7.54. Consumer spot, 7.10. Home for the Holidays, with Chris Tarrant at 7.15 and 8.45. The OVRAS summer spectacular with Roland Rat at 9.03.
9.25 Thames News headlines followed by The Little Rascals. The gang take an epidemic (r).
9.40 Potty Time. Michael Bonithe with yet more doddiness (r).
10.05 Pinball XLS. Four planes lose their robots (r).
10.30 Freeform Special. Energetic sports.
10.55 Cartoon Time. Pepe le Pew (r).
11.05 Home. The runways have second thoughts (r).
11.30 About Britain. Fourth of five programmes celebrating the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Channel Islands.
12.00 Aida. Preview of Richard's 177.
12.10 Moonlight & Co. Berni Flint with guest Patsy Rowlands (r).
12.30 Survival. The Masai people call the place "Siringor", or "the great open place". It is the home of the greatest concentration of wildlife on Earth (r).
1.00 News at One. 120 Thames News.
1.30 Little House on the Prairie. Charles and Caroline are prospective grandparents (r).
2.25 Home Cookery Club. Savoury Egg Slice (r).
2.30 Something to Treasure. What was a Victorian childhood really like?
3.00 Take the High Road. An unimpressive visit.
3.25 Thames News headlines.
3.50 Sons and Daughters. Shame for Gordon Hamilton.
4.00 Children's TV presented by Harry and Dawn from No. 73. Alfie Atkins. The mischief maker (r). 4.10 Victor and Maria. Training the dog (r). 4.20 Inspector Gadget. Animated adventures of a burgling bionic detective.
4.45 Dramarama. A job as an adventure playground leader is not as simple as it seems (r). (Ceefax).
5.15 Thames Sport. Brian Moore interviews Kevin Keegan and family before their departure for Spain.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 What's It Worth. Letters answered by Penny Junor and David Stafford.
6.35 Crossroads. A surprise visitor for Nicola.
7.00 Emmerdale Farm. Pressures build up at the farm.
7.10 Fame. The Final Countdown. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz voyager through time after a violent Pacific storm arriving on the day before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Starring Kirk Douglas and Martin Sheen.
9.30 Seeds of Hope. Part five of the documentary about an Ethiopian village's fight against famine.
10.00 News at Ten followed by Thames News headlines.
10.30 Kojak. The bald-headed trouble shooter is chasing a gang setting up a big robbery in another tough instalment of life on the wild side of Manhattan's South Precinct.
11.30 Belief in Action. The mentality handicapped.
12.00 That's Hollywood. Stars who sang on the big screen, including AJ Jolson, James Cagney, Burt Reynolds and Marilyn Monroe.
12.25 Night Thoughts with Theresa Varier followed by Ceefax.



Judy Cornwell and Peter Benson BBC2, 9.25pm

CHOICE

Plays don't come more saucily than Stephen Lowe's **KISSES ON THE BOTTOM** (BBC 2, 9.25pm). But be advised, there is double entendre at work here, though on an infinitely lesser scale than in the cheeky seaside postcards that have inspired the play. This is, in fact, a highly respectable affair, ostensibly a comedy, but essentially a lament for the passing of a good, old, vulgar, English tradition. What Mr Lowe has done is to take the Donald McGill characters off the cards, deflate them by pulling out the rude captions, and then blow real life into them. And real problems. Thus, big, fat, formidable man in red polka dress and showing his buttocks, blooms, the chances to shine that skinny Dad, with knobby hands, was never granted in his postcard existence. Boxy killed Scott and timid Vicar

CHOICE

exchange roles. Honeymoon Couple plan a new career in syndicated strips of questionable artistic taste. **Kisses on the Bottom** is a shade too pessimistic for my liking, though I can understand that the death of laughter is not a laughing matter.
9 "Excuse me, sir, just checking your inside leg". Thus Alan Maynard's **YOU'RE THE MAN** (BBC 1, 7.30pm). Puns like this have helped to keep these anatomical half-liters on the layman's side of the medical fence. In spite of them (or, probably, because of them), light floods into dark areas. And not only metaphorically. What better way to

CHOICE

understand osteo-arthritis than to see blinking red lights flashing away in a gigantic cartilage? If only there was an equally attractive way to live with the pain.
10 Radio choice: Alan England's **THE VACANT** (Radio 4, 3.00pm). Notable for its three-dimensional characters and the authenticity of its sense of time (Second World War) and place (Cheshire), with a distant view of the Liverpool blitz, makes some good points about the all-too-human temptation to allow the dead past to decide the direction of the living present and throw a shadow over the future. . . . The most familiar feature of tonight's **PROM** (Radio 3, 7.30pm) is Chopin's second piano concerto, played by Sequeira Costa, and the BBC Philharmonic.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

- 6.30 Open University. Maths: Group Theory. 6.55 Science: Snowdon to the Sea.
8.00 Pages from Ceefax.
8.00 Bus to Beeworth. A school trip relives the battle of Beoworth, starring Kenneth Griffith as Mr Huw Meredith BA and Rachel Thomas as Miss Evans. (First shown on BBC Wales).
8.00 The Invaders. There are just five hours to save Earth, but Vincent and his "believers" are implicated by an ambitious attorney in a political assassination. Roy Thinnies is David Vincent in the last episode of this alien drama.
8.50 Phil Silvers as Sergeant Bilko. Bilko's platoon is chosen to stagger through its paces in an Army training film. But Doberman gets stage fright and leaves the artistic direction to the irresponsible Bilko. The results would have made Busby Berkeley proud.
7.15 Tales of Hoffmann. The Master of Deceits. Fox. Tag, an orphan for a cub, is adopted by a professional huntsman and reared with a litter of hound puppies. Tag retains the instincts of a fox but becomes companion to Merlin, a puppy hound. However, their friendship is destined to be torn apart. Plenty of thrills and spills in the countryside. Apart from yapping dogs, the cast is comprised of Eric Porter, Rachel Roberts, Jeremy Kemp, Dennis Waterman and Bill Travers. Directed in 1973 by James Hill, based on *The Tales of the Master of Deceits* by David Rock.
9.00 Sing Country. David Allan hosts highlights from Wembley Arena. With Tom Gribbin, Ronnie Prophet, Gloria-Anne Carriere, Narelle Fells, and Conway Twitty (r).
9.25 Summer Season. *Kisses on the Bottom* by Stephen Lowe. A comedy that brings to life the traditional saucy seaside postcard. With Judy Cornwell, Peter Benson, Hetty Byrnes, Max Hatter, Harry Jones, and Tim Winton. (Ceefax) (See Choice).
10.25 Marty Goes to... Edinburgh. More music, comment and gossip from Russell Harty at the Edinburgh Festival.
10.55 Newsnight. News and analysis. 11.40 Weatherview. Open University. Education: Time to Learn. Ends 12.20.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.15 Channel 4 Racing from York. 2.30 Mooreface. Cornish Maiden Stakes. 3.10 William Hill Sprint Championship. 3.45 Bradford & Singley H.C. 4.15 Lowther Stakes.
4.30 The Gong Show. Unbearable talent with some very talented contestants, including a man who plays the tom-toms with a chicken on his head.
5.00 Mother Wore Tights. Lavish Twentieth Century Fox musical about the life, times and songs of vaudevillians Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. Narrated by Anne Baxter and directed by Walter Lang in 1947. A Daily Mail critic was moved to write: "I offer as a thought for this week's television that Miss Grable's legs are a better basis for international good will and understanding than all the works of Unesco and the British Council. They stand for something, persistence and lovely and absolute."
7.00 Channel Four News.
7.50 Comment from Cueside. Stearn, a senior citizen.
8.00 Spaceflight. The messenger of the Gods, Mercury, was also a friend to travellers - and an entire US space programme was named after him. It was also the beginning of space race because of the success of early Russian explorations. Narrated by the iconic Martin Sheen, with descriptions from Mercury astronaut John Glenn, Alan Shepard, Deke Slayton and Scott Carpenter. Some classified NASA and US government footage is screened for the first time, along with rare Russian footage.
9.00 George Gershwin Concerto in F performed by the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, conductor Matthias Bamert, with soloist Alan Bates.
9.35 The Gathering. Play from New Zealand about how indigenous Maori adapt to 20th century urban existence.
10.30 Berlin Alexanderplatz. A Handful of People in the Depths of Silence. Franz is drowning in drink and despair after leaving Frau Beate's house and moving to a miserable tenement. He tries to blot out bitter memories and the evil and malice all around. Only Eva (Hanna Schygulla) shows real concern. But Franz (Gert Fröbe) refuses all help. Part four of Fassbinder's 14-part adaptation of Alfred Döblin's novel.
11.40 Dream Stuffing. Comedy about the erratic fortunes of down-to-earth Mo (Amanda Symonds) and her flatmate Jude (Rachel Weaver), who dreams of fame and fortune. Tonight, Jude and Mo play hotel to Brenda, who is unmarried and pregnant. She gives Jude ideas... (r).
12.05 France Tour Debut. Jean-Luc Godard examines France through the eyes of young children. 12.35 Close.

Radio 4

- 5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News. 6.10 A Farming. 6.25 Mooreface. Today. Including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Business News. 6.55, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.45 Thought for the Day.
6.45 The Growing Pains of Adrian Reader. Nicholas Barnes. 6.57 Weather. Travel.
8.05 Sir Women. Alan Brown talks to lawyer and Euro-politician Winifred Edwards.
9.30 The Living World. The enormous size of the American garter snake (r).
10.05 His Stately Home Business. Hollier Hall, Cumbria (r).
10.30 Morning Story. Connections by Sir David. Reader: Tom Criddle.
10.45 An Act of Worship. 11.05 The World Tonight. The Coast of Cornwall. With Tom Salmon (r).
11.40 The Labour of Hercules. With Vincent Kane.
12.05 News. You're Young. Consumer affairs. With John Howard.
12.27 My Music. Steve Rave chairs the British Music Awards. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. Shipping.
2.00 News. Woman's Hour. Includes an item on low-cost after-school play schemes.
3.00 News. The Aachen Play. The Yachty by Alan Brown. Norman Jones and Elizabeth Bell. Drama set in Cheshire during the last war.
4.00 News. Read. With Elizabeth Proud. Raleigh Trevelyan and Brian Gray (r).
4.40 Story Time. Slow Boats to China by Gavin Young (r). Reader: John Borty.
5.00 P.M. News magazine. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.

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5.00 P.M. News magazine. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Delius's *Three Songs* (orchestra).
7.15 Proms (orchestra).
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